THE BOOGYMAN

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ABLAZE

THE
BOOGYMAN

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Foreward by
DENIS BAJRAM

Young people, the older you get, the more annoying they are. Already, they land with talent and energy to spare. As if no one occupied the ground before them, as if we had not been young before them. In addition, we must admit, they understand almost everything in manga and comics, all without denying the comic strip. And so, they know how to make scenes and boards that go all over the place, but which remain perfectly legible. Pffff. Go ahead and I'll put effects everywhere, the thing you shouldn't do for readability... except that, it works. Can we talk about these spattered colors? And this script all in atmosphere but with a constructed universe, the kind of mix that should not work? What kind of person does it take to want to recreate mythologies? In short, they annoy me so much that I agreed to make them a drawing and a preface, that's to say...

Thinking about it, Mathieu and Djet know how to do it for young people. A bit too much, even. Could it be because they are not that young? Mmmmh... I especially wonder if they haven't made a pact with a demonic entity. Cursed boogymen!

WOULD YOU MIND LENDING ME THESE DRAWINGS FOR A FEW MINUTES? I'D LIKE TO SHOW THEM TO SOME PEOPLE.
I'LL BE QUICK.

S.I.
S.I.
SO?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THAT HE'S A COURAGEOUS LITTLE BOY, BUT TOTALLY TRAUMATIZED.
I'LL BE CAREFUL, DOC. I PROMISE.
BUT THE TRIAL'S COMING UP AND THE KID IS OUR ONLY WITNESS. IT'D BE REALLY GOOD IF HE STARTED TO TALK.

SCRiiiiTCH
SCRiiiiTCH
SCRiiiiTCH
SCRiiiiTCH
SCRiiiiTCH
HELLO, ELLIOTT.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT?
ABOUT THE MONSTERS?
I CAN'T.
IT'S NORMAL TO BE AFRAID, SON, I UNDERSTAND, BUT...
THAT'S NOT IT.

IT'S JUST THAT...
...I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING.
I WAS LYING, OF COURSE.

A MONTH EARLIER.
I DIDN'T FORGET, YOU KNOW.
THE MEMORIES GET A BIT MIXED UP, BUT IT'S ALL THERE, PERMANENTLY ETCHED INTO MY MIND.
Hiiiiin
YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, YOUNG MAN!
Clic!!
YOU PROMISED ME YOU'D GO TO SLEEP HALF AN HOUR AGO!
AND HERE YOU ARE, READING UNDER THE COVERS...
WHAT IS THIS ANYWAY?

I GOT IT OUT OF THE LIBRARY...
YOU TOLD ME I WAS ALLOWED TO TAKE OUT ANY BOOK I WANTED! AND THE LIBRARIAN SAID I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO READ THIS ONE!
SO, YOU TOOK OUT ANOTHER BOOK OF BOOGYMAN STORIES...
THEY EXIST! I SWEAR! THERE'S EVEN ONE LIVING IN THE BASEMENT!
ELLIOTT...
THERE'S A DOG WALKING AROUND IN THE WALLS! YOU CAN HEAR IT AT NIGHT IF YOU LISTEN!
ELLIOTT, LISTEN TO ME...
I CAN PROVE IT TO YOU, DAD! YOU KNOW ALL MY TOYS I KEEP FINDING IN THE BASEMENT?
IT'S BECAUSE THE BOOGYMAN TAKES THEM FROM UNDER MY BED...
STOP. LISTEN TO ME.
THERE'S NO BOOGYMAN IN THE BASEMENT, OR DOG IN THE WALLS...
YOU'RE SAFE HERE.

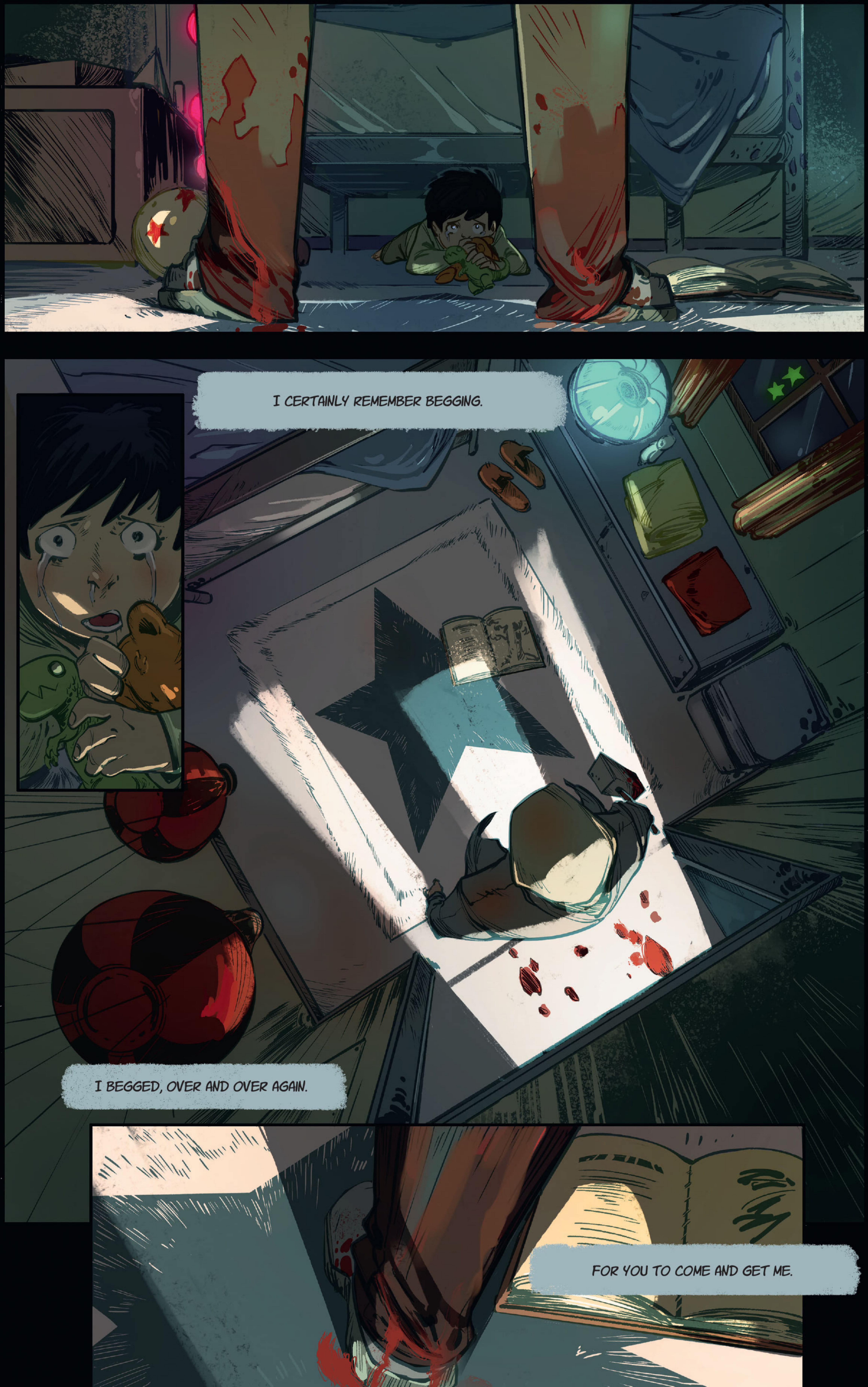
"I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU, MONSTERS DON'T EXIST."
IT'S A NICE HOUSE. IT'LL DEFINITELY BE NICE AND WARM INSIDE.
I WONDER IF THEY HAVE A FIREPLACE...
YOU COULD GO AND ASK THEM.
INSTEAD OF JUST SITTING THERE IN THE RAIN.
WITH A BIT OF LUCK, THE WOMAN WILL ANSWER THE DOOR IN HER NIGHTIE, AND YOU'LL GET AN EYEFUL.
AND IF IT'S THE HUSBAND, YOU CAN JUST SMASH HIS HEAD IN WITH YOUR HAMMER.

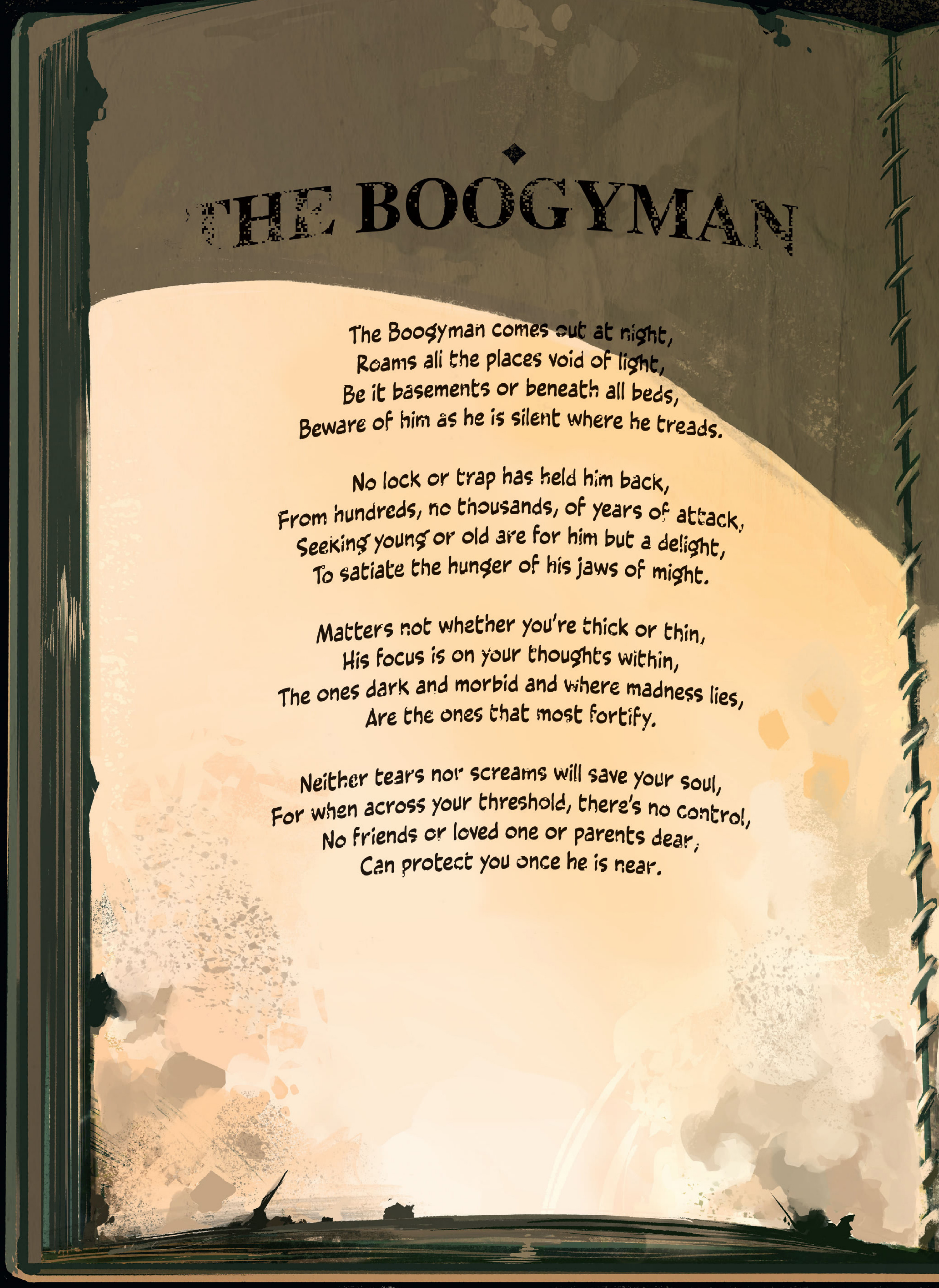
NO? STILL NOT INTERESTED?
COME ON, MAKE AN EFFORT… THINK ABOUT THE WOMAN…AND EVERYTHING YOU COULD DO TO HER DURING THE WEEKEND…
HIN HIN HIN!!
THEEERE …THAT'S IT!
FINALLY! COME HERE, MY PRETTY… COME TO GRANDMA!
AND NOW GET A MOVE ON, WILL YOU?
LET'S NOT SPEND ALL NIGHT HERE!
AND DON'T FORGET TO DEAL WITH THE CAR THIS TIME! SO NO ONE CAN GET AWAY!

YOU OKAY?
GENTLY...
IS ELLIOTT ASLEEP?
YES, FINALLY. AFTER HAVING CONFISCATED HIS FLASHLIGHT AND THE BOOK HE TOOK OUT OF THE LIBRARY...
LET ME GUESS...THE DOG IN THE WALLS? NO, WAIT! THE BOOGYMAN IN THE BASEMENT!
IT'S NOT FUNNY, MADDY! IT'S TURNING INTO AN OBSESSION!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA SAY, BUT I THINK WE NEED TO TAKE HIM TO SEE SOMEONE.
HONEY, RELAX...
I ALSO HAD AN IMAGINARY FRIEND WHEN I WAS LITTLE...IT'S TOTALLY NORMAL AT HIS AGE.
DING DONG !!
YOU EXPECTING SOMEONE?

SOMETIMES IT'S LIKE I NEVER LEFT THE ROOM.
ELLIOTT
NO MONSTER
THE ALMOST INAUDIBLE SOUND INSIDE THE WALLS...
DAD?
THE COLD PARQUET BENEATH MY FEET...
KRRARRK
...AND THAT SMELL, THAT I'VE NEVER FORGOTTEN.

THE SMELL OF BLOOD, OBVIOUSLY.
DAD?
I REMEMBER THE FEAR, THE PANIC, WHEN I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD...
LLIOTT


I CERTAINLY REMEMBER BEGGING.
I BEGGED, OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
FOR YOU TO COME AND GET ME.



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THE BOOGYMAN

The Boogyman comes out at night,
Roams all the places void of light,
Be it basements or beneath all beds,
Beware of him as he is silent where he treads.

No lock or trap has held him back,
From hundreds, no thousands, of years of attack,
Seeking young or old are for him but a delight,
To satiate the hunger of his jaws of might.

Matters not whether you're thick or thin,
His focus is on your thoughts within,
The ones dark and morbid and where madness lies,
Are the ones that most fortify.

Neither tears nor screams will save your soul,
For when across your threshold, there's no control,
No friends or loved one or parents dear,
Can protect you once he is near.

HEY, KID?
WHERE ARE YOUUU?
HIIIIIIIN!!
WELL, WELL! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
IF I'D KNOWN THAT I'D FIND NIGHTMARES LIKE YOU HERE, I WOULD HAVE COME EARLIER!

EASY...
GO.
NOW.
OH NO, OH NO, NOT SO FAST!
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT THIS HOUSE ALREADY HAD ITS BOOGYMAN! IF I HAD, I WOULDN'T HAVE DARED!
NOW YOU KNOW.
GET OUT.

TWO MINUTES!
IN TWO MINUTES, MY HOST WILL HAVE FOUND THE KID, AND THEN WE CAN HARVEST MORE LITTLE SISTERS THAN EITHER OF US NEED!
THEN I'LL DISAPPEAR, I PROMISE!
DON'T YOU AGREE? WE DON'T WANT TO MISS A FEAST LIKE THIS.
HANG ON A SEC, PRETTY BOY...WE'VE MET, HAVEN'T WE?
I'M SAYING THIS FOR THE LAST TIME.
GO NOW OR YOU'LL LOSE MORE THAN A GOOD HARVEST.

YOU'VE MADE A MISTAKE ACTING LIKE THIS, FELLA...
GNNNHHH...
GO ON, MY DEAR. GO TELL THE OTHERS...
GO TELL MR. SEVEN O'CLOCK THAT GRANDMA HAS FOUND ANOTHER ONE!

HEY, KID! WHERE YA HIDING?
THE BACK DOOR JUST SLAMMED. THE KID'S GETTING AWAY. YOU CAN HEAR HIM CRYING FOR HELP.

FUCKIN' SHIT! GODDAMN LITTLE BRAT, FUCK!
I'D LIKE TO REPORT A DOUBLE MURDER...5268 CORONADO LANE...HURRY UP...THE KILLER TOOK OFF.
SHE'S STILL OUT THERE.

I WONDER WHAT SHE'S WAITING FOR.
HANG ON A MINUTE...
SHE'S CALLED IN OTHERS!

THE POLICE'LL NEVER GET HERE IN TIME TO TAKE CARE OF THE KID!
I DON'T KNOW WHY I SAVED HIM, OKAY?!
BUT IF I HAD LET THEM FINISH WHAT THEY STARTED HERE, IT WOULD HAVE ALL BEEN IN VAIN!
WHY AM I WASTING MY TIME WITH YOU?
I DON'T HAVE TO JUSTIFY MYSELF TO YOU!

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
THE BOOGYMAN...
GOOD.
FOLLOW ME.

US
SO, IS IT TRUE? YOU FOUND ANOTHER ONE?
I COULD HAVE SWORN THAT WE'D GOTTEN ALL OF THEM!
WELL, NO! ONLY THE CITY ONES.
WHO KNOWS HOW MANY OF THEM ARE HOLED UP IN BACKWOOD PLACES LIKE THIS. COWARDS. TOO AFRAID TO CONFRONT US.
BUT NOT THIS ONE. HE'S DIFFERENT. I'M NOT SURE...BUT I THINK I KNOW WHO HE IS.
WHO?
FATHER DEATH.
YOU'VE LOST IT, Y'OLD CROW.
FATHER DEATH DISAPPEARED DECADES AGO...JUST AS WE STARTED GOING AFTER THE ELDERS.
HE DEFINITELY BOUGHT IT IN SOME DESERTED PLACE, EATEN BY SOME LUCKY BASTARD DURING THE GREAT SLAUGHTER!
THINK WHAT YOU LIKE. WE'LL SEE WHAT MR. SEVEN O'CLOCK SAYS.

FUCK, NO WAY!
YOU COULDN'T HELP BUT CALL HIM?! THE TWO OF US COULD'VE HANDLED HIM! JUST IMAGINE THE REUNION!
EXACTLY.
WHOEVER HE IS, HE'S SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS OLD, AT LEAST. IF YOU THINK WE CAN DO THIS WITHOUT HIM, YOU'RE EVEN CRAZIER THAN I THOUGHT.
HOW DO YOU THINK HE GOT TO BE WHO HE IS? BY BEING MR. NICE GUY? BY SETTLING FOR CRUMBS, LIKE THE REST OF US? IF IT IS FATHER DEATH WHO'S HIDING IN THERE, HE'S GOT TO BE EXHAUSTED AFTER HAVING HIBERNATED ALL THESE YEARS.
IT'S OUR CHANCE TO PLAY WITH THE BIG BOYS! WE CAN ATTACK HIM NOW, AS HE WAKES... BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO REGAIN HIS STRENGTH!
OH, FUCK IT. STAY HERE IF YOU WANT! IT MEANS MORE FOR ME!

STEP!!
WE CAN'T STAY HERE.

WE HAVE TO GO.
NO!
NO!
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO...
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE THEM? WHY?

YOO-HOO? ANYONE THERE?
I CAN SMELL YOU, YOU KNOW.
TOC TOC TOC
GOTCHA!

CAN YOU TELL ME HOW COME YOU'RE STILL ALIVE, HUH?
COME, COME...I CAN SEE YOU'RE A COURAGEOUS LITTLE THING, OTHERWISE YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE ME!
SO, TELL ME...
...WHERE IS GRANDMA'S HOST? THE ONE WITH THE HAMMER?
HE DIDN'T TAKE OFF IN THE MIDDLE OF A HARVEST?
NAH? YOU DON'T KNOW? AND THE OTHER BOOGYMAN?
THE ONE WHO THREW GRANDMA OUT?
DON'T KNOW?
WELL, WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO KEEP OURSELVES BUSY, YOU AND ME...

...OR MAYBE NOT, THEN!
SORRY, BUT IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE PEG-LEG HAS BEEN AFRAID OF NIGHTMARES!
SO, IF I WERE YOU, I...
JUMP!!

TAKE THAT!
YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD GET OL' PEG-LEG THERE, HUH?
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GONNA BE FRICASSEED.

LOOKIE HERE...
TAKE A GANDER NOW AT ALL THE LITTLE SISTERS!
A PERFECT APPETIZER!
LET HIM GO.
FINALLY!
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER COME OUT OF YOUR HIDEY HOLE!

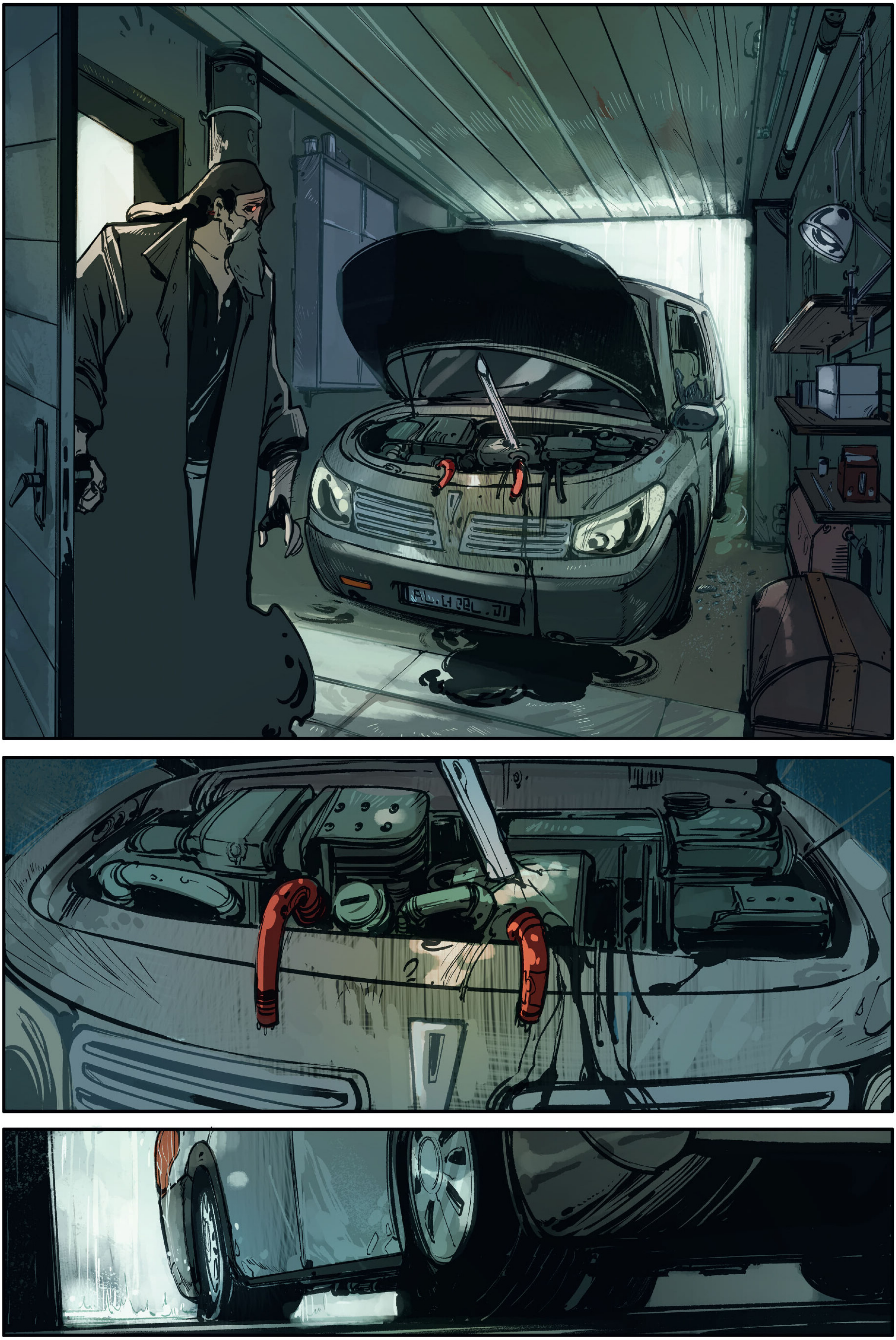
DON'T BE SHY...
COME CLOSER SO I CAN SEE YOUR FACE.
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE KNOWN.
THE HARVEST IS OVER. I SENT THE HOST BACK.
GO NOW.
IT'S THE LAST TIME I'M GOING TO ASK YOU.
YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YA? I DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT THE HARVEST.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL THESE YEARS?
THERE'S NO MORE RULES!

SLICE!!
CHALK
HURF

CRUNCH
REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH. YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT.

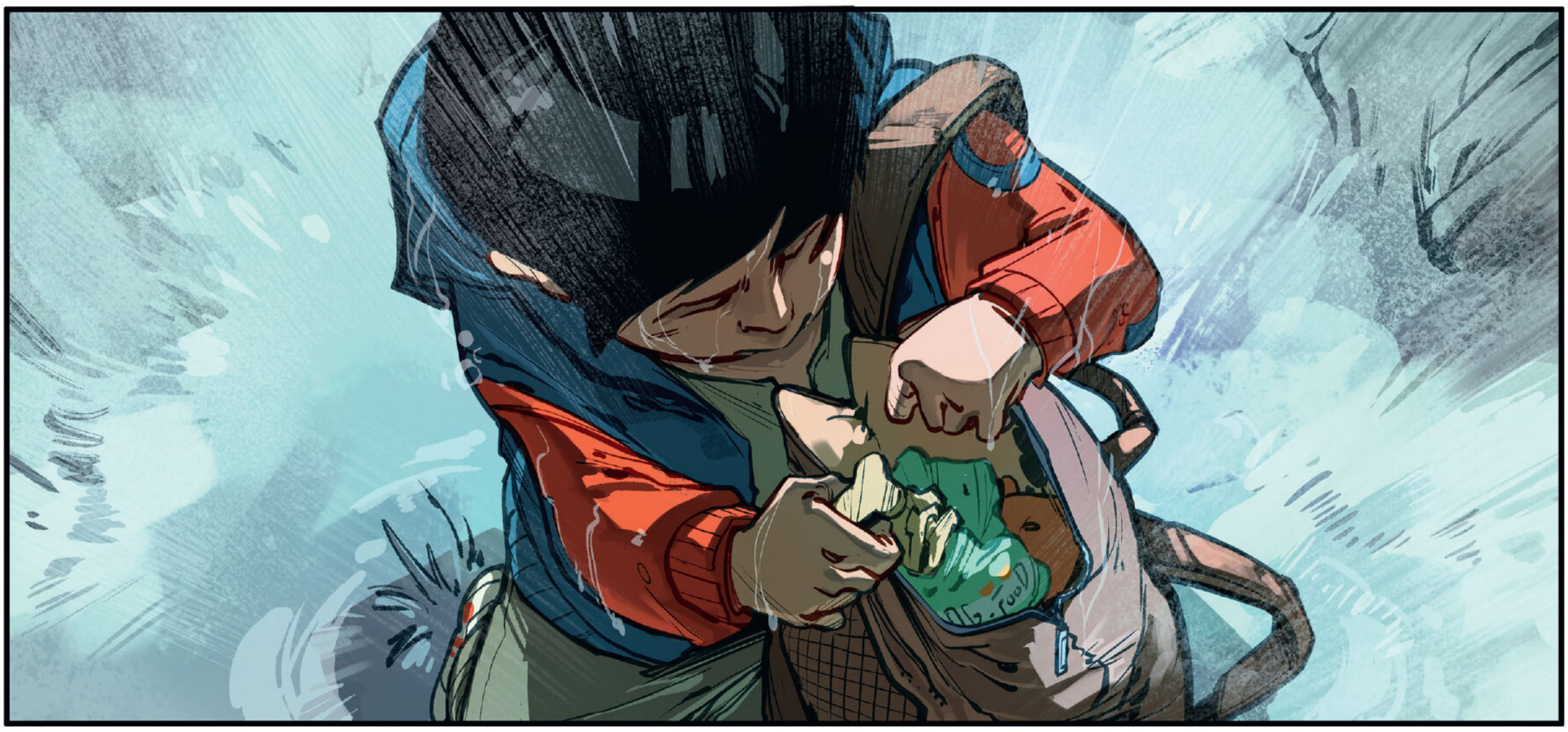
WE HAVE TO GO RIGHT NOW.
THEY'RE GOING TO COME BACK WITH REINFORCEMENTS, AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP THEM.
IT'S NOT YOU THEY'RE AFTER...IT'S ME! IT'S ME!
KID?
HEY, KID! DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID?
WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE HOUSE, NOW!
GATHER UP A FEW THINGS AND I'LL DROP YOU OFF AT THE NEAREST POLICE STATION.
AND THEN THE DOG AND I CAN DISAPPEAR.

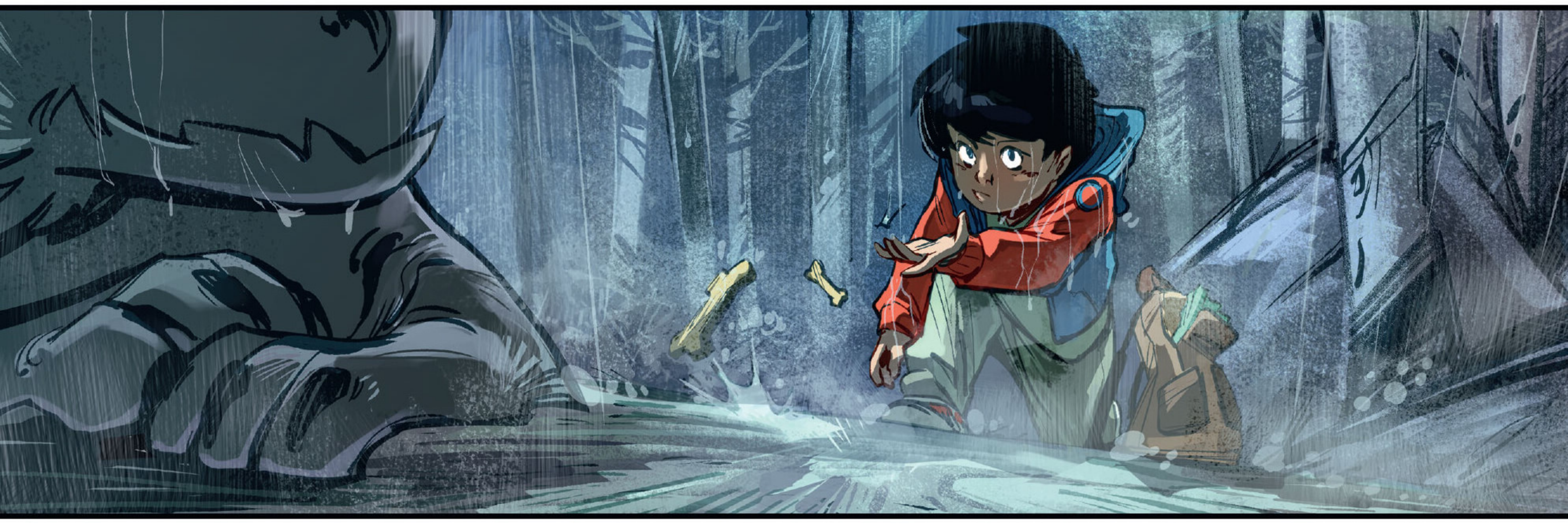
BLAM!!

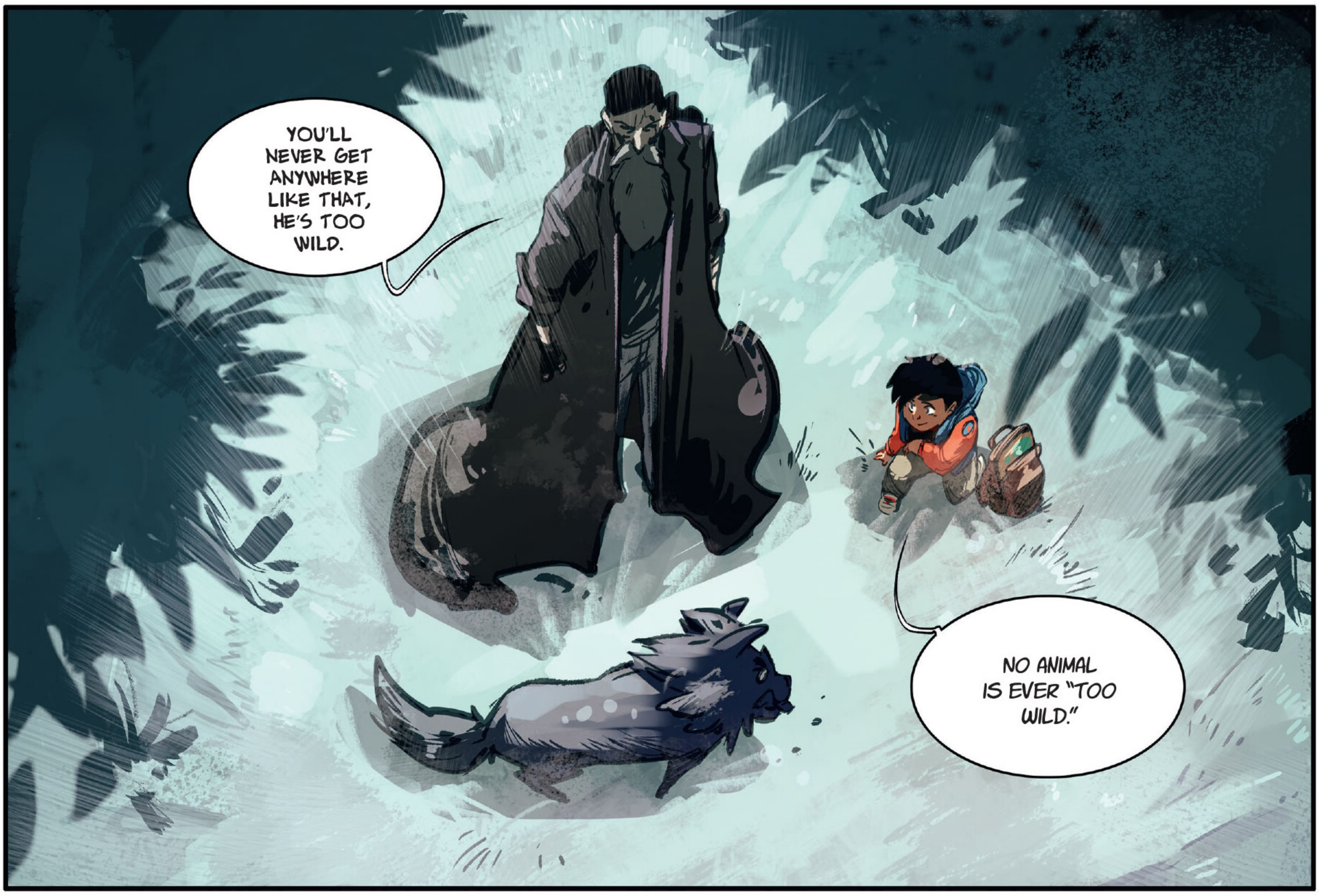


Noooooo!!
BWAAAAA
AHAAAA!!
STOP! THAT'S ENOUGH NOW.
CRYING WON'T CHANGE ANY OF WHAT'S HAPPENED.
SNIF
BUT IT'LL PROBABLY HELP THE OTHERS FIND US.
LISTEN...
THERE'S A TIME FOR EVERYTHING, KID. AND, RIGHT NOW, THIS SECOND, IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO BE BRAVE!
LATER, WHEN WE'RE SOMEWHERE SAFE, I PROMISE YOU YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MOURN YOUR PARENTS. OKAY?

DIDN'T YOU ASK SANTA FOR A PUPPY FOR CHRISTMAS?
AND I REMEMBER THAT LAST YEAR, YOUR PARENTS BOUGHT YOU A BOOK ON HOW TO TRAIN THEM...
YOU KNOW WHAT?
THE DOG IS YOURS UNTIL WE GET TO THE POLICE STATION. YOU CAN PRACTICE ON HIM!
YOU'RE SCARING HIM! LEAVE HIM!
YOU CAN'T FORCE DOGS.
EVER.






YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE LIKE THAT, HE'S TOO WILD.
NO ANIMAL IS EVER "TOO WILD."

WHY DO THE OTHERS WANT TO KILL ME?
THEY DON'T NECESSARILY WANT TO KILL YOU. THEY WANT TO USE YOU TO FEED THE DARK THOUGHTS OF THEIR HUMAN HOSTS.
OUR LITTLE SISTERS.
WHAT FOR? I MEAN THEN WHAT DO THEY DO WITH 'EM?
THEY HARVEST THEM AND THEN THEY EAT THEM.
THEIR OWN SISTERS? WHY DO THEY DO THAT?
BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING BETTER AND IT MAKES THEM STRONGER.
DO YOU EAT THEM?
NOT ANYMORE.
DAD SAID THAT YOU DON'T EXIST...
YOUR FATHER WAS WRONG. WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN AROUND.
BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN SEE YOU!
BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE TO FACE YOUR FEARS. THAT HAPPENS SOMETIMES WITH CHILDREN.
IT'S REALLY RARE WITH ADULTS...
HOW CAN THE POLICE PROTECT ME THEN?
I MEAN, IF NO ONE EXCEPT ME CAN SEE THE MONSTERS?
YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
WE HAVE TO GET GOING.

SHIT! THIS IS FUCKING CRAZY!
WHO COULD BE STRONG ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS?!
AN ELDER.
BUT WE ATE ALL THE ELDERS.
THAT'S WHAT PEG-LEG SAID. AND NOW HE'S DEAD.
THINK ABOUT IT A SECOND! THERE'S AT LEAST ONE THAT WE DIDN'T FIND.
LET ME GUESS...
...FATHER DEATH?!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT?

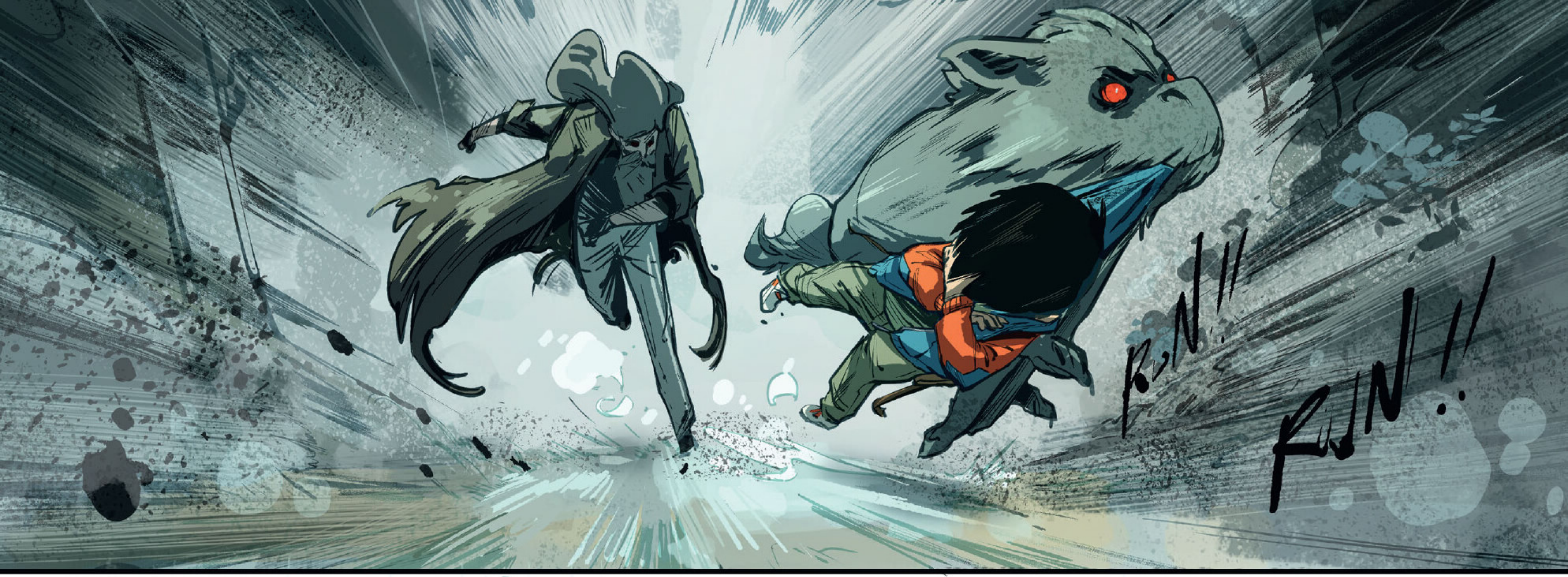
THERE ARE NO MORE RULES!
THERE ARE NO MORE ELDERS!
FATHER DEATH IS NO MORE!
EXACTLY, GUYS.
THERE'S ONLY ME.

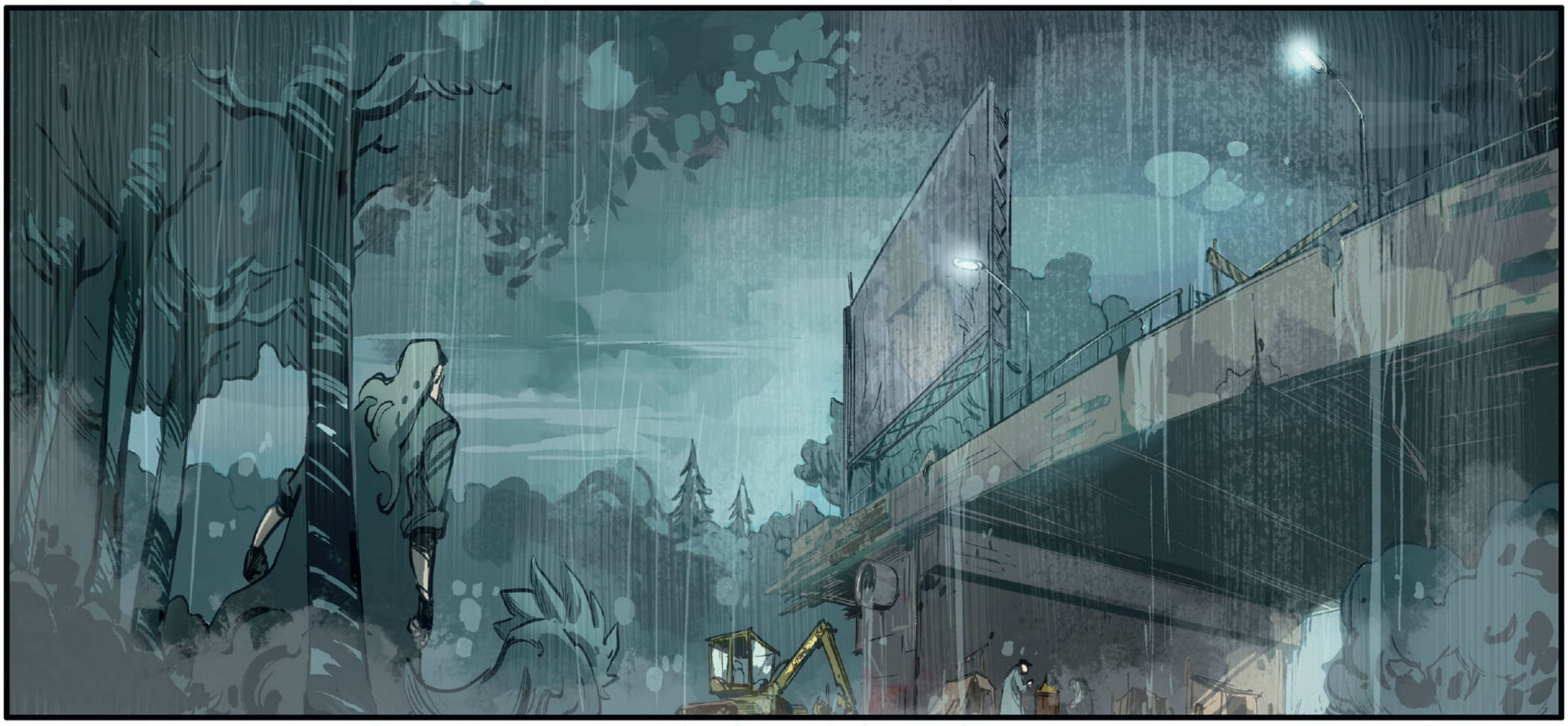
ALL RIGHT, BUT I SAW HIM TEAR PEG-LEG IN TWO...
...LIKE SOME OLD PIECE OF PAPER.
DID YOU SEE HIS WEAPON?
THE BIG SCYTHE?
NO.
AND HE'S ACTING LIKE THE OLD RULES STILL APPLY.
AS THOUGH HE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE GREAT MASSACRE.

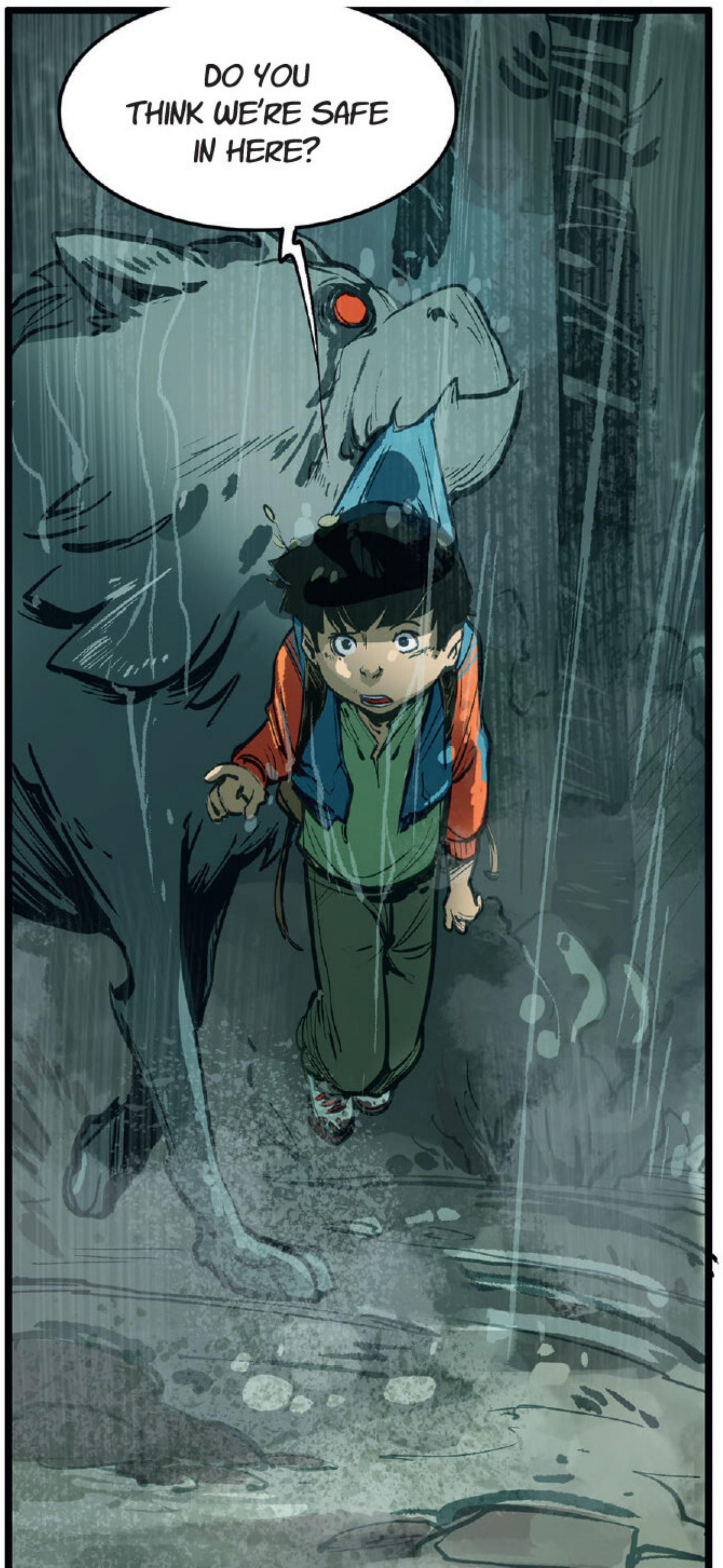
EAT
THE MEMORIES ARE FLOODING BACK...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
...WHY'S HE PROTECTING THE KID?
HE'S WEAKENED. I CAN FEEL IT. BUT...HE DOESN'T EAT ME...
...HE'S LEAVING EVERYTHING TO HIS NIGHTMARE... IT DOESN'T...
IT MAKES NO SENSE!

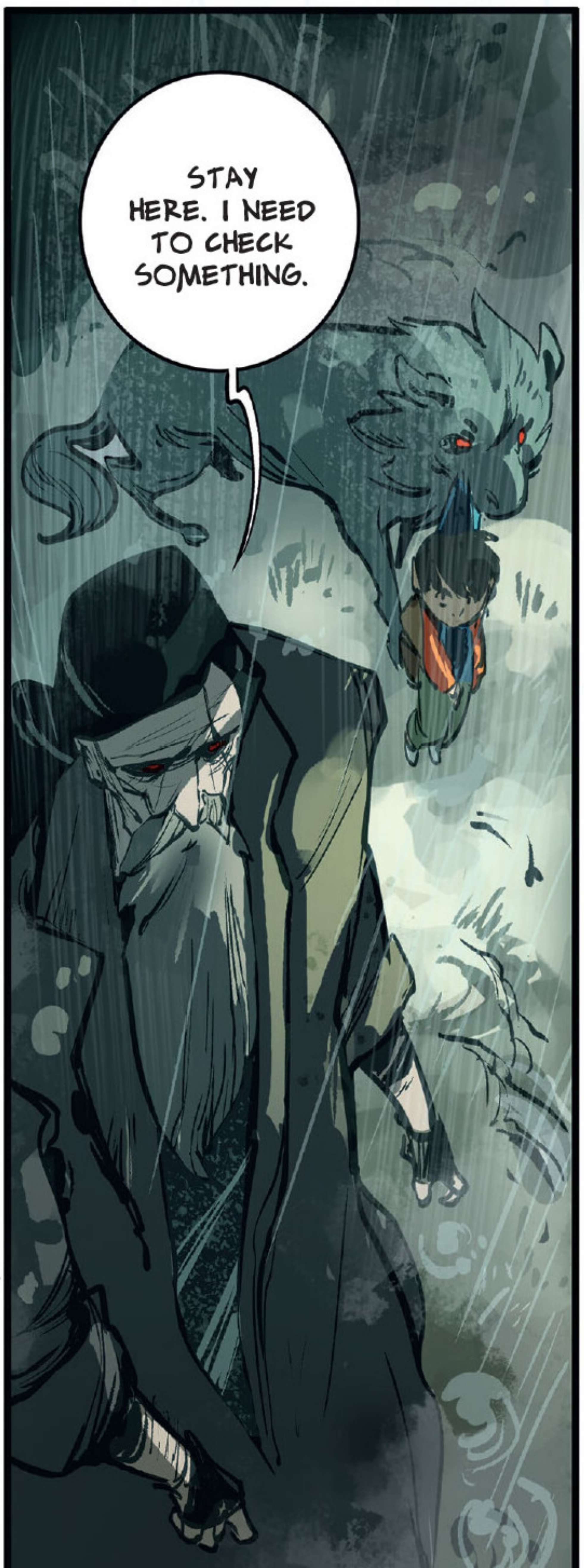
I WANT HIM ON HIS KNEES IN FRONT OF ME.
I WANT TO KNOW WHO HE IS AND HOW HE GOT AWAY FROM US!
WHERE ARE CROD AND JAMBOT?! I WANT THEM TO GO AFTER HIM!
THEY WERE THE FIRST TO ARRIVE.
THEY GOT SICK OF WAITING...
THAT SON OF A BITCH IS MINE!
ANYONE WHO DARES TO TOUCH HIM BEFORE I DO WILL BE FOOD FOR MY HYENAS, IS THAT CLEAR?!
BARBAOU, LET OUT YOUR NIGHT-KILLERS.
TONIGHT, WE HUNT THE ELDER!

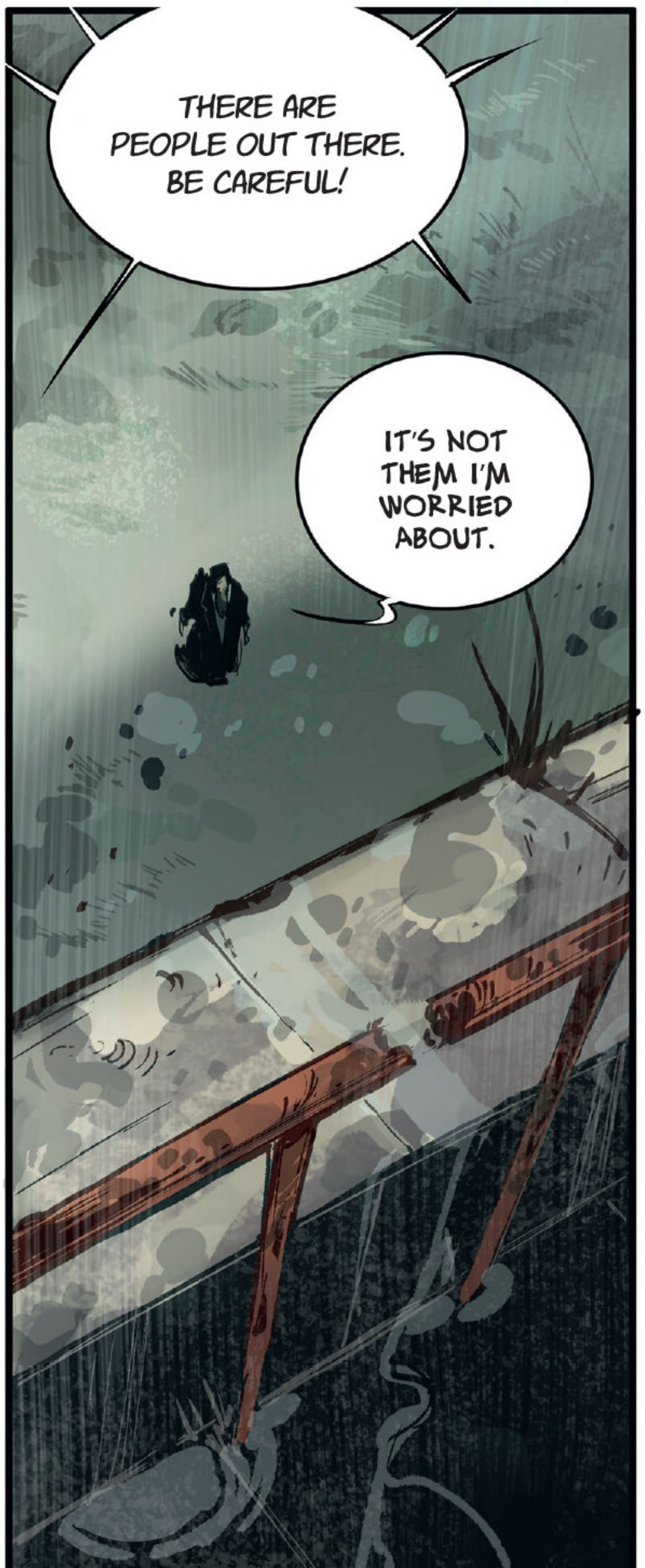
WE HAVE TO HIDE.
HURRY.
GET THE KID!
HEY!
GRAB!!
FSCHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!


RUN!!
RUN!!




DO YOU THINK WE'RE SAFE IN HERE?


STAY HERE. I NEED TO CHECK SOMETHING.


THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE. BE CAREFUL!
IT'S NOT THEM I'M WORRIED ABOUT.

THIS BRIDGE IS MINE.
I'M JUST PASSING THROUGH.
I AM FATHER DEATH.
I JUST WANT TO REST.
I THINK WE'RE OKAY NOW.
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED. NO ONE CAN SEE YOU UNLESS I LET THEM.

THEY LIVE ON THE BRIDGE.
NOT SURPRISING. BOOGYMEN LOVE THAT KIND OF PLACE...
THAT'S WHERE ALL THE DOWNTRODDEN ARE...
WHY DO THEY LIKE THAT?
BECAUSE OF THEM.
THE LITTLE SISTERS.
IT'S LIKE A PANTRY.
grab!!

IS THAT WHY YOU CAME TO OUR BASEMENT? FOR THE LITTLE SISTERS?
NO.
ON THE CONTRARY.
SWOOOOCH!!!
TOO SLOW, OLD MAN...
TOO SLOW...

BIARF
FUUU
SLAM

BLAAAM!!

IS THAT IT?
COME ON, GRANDPA, I KNOW YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
THIS IS MY BRIDGE. YOU'VE GOT NO BUSINESS BEING HERE.
I GUESS YOU HAVEN'T HEARD. THERE ARE NO MORE RULES, ASSHOLE! THERE'S ONLY...

SORRY, I INTERRUPTED YOU. YOU WERE SAYING?
IT'S ONLY A FEW DECADES OLD, AND IT ALREADY HAS NO RESPECT.
IS IT SO HARD TO ASK PERMISSION?
NO GAME
YOU AND YOUR NIGHTMARE HAD BETTER GO AND RECUPERATE. THEY ATTACKED US FIRST. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO EAT THEM. THAT'S THE RULE!
BUT... THOSE ARE THE LITTLE SISTERS!
THE BAD GUYS...THEY WERE FULL OF LITTLE SISTERS!

GOOD THING, TOO! CONSIDERING ALL THE ELDERS THEY'VE SCARFED DOWN, THOSE BASTARDS!
BUT...BUT... I THOUGHT THEY CAME FROM HUMANS! FROM THEIR DARK THOUGHTS AND ALL THAT?!
ORIGINALLY, YEAH, OF COURSE. THAT'S WHERE WE ALL CAME FROM. FEARS, FRUSTRATIONS, VIOLENCE. WE HAVE THE CHOICE. WE ALL START OUT SIMPLE.
IT IS IN EATING EACH OTHER THAT THEY BECOME MORE COMPLEX AND GAIN STRENGTH, UNTIL THEY BECOME NIGHTMARES.
KRIIIIIII
AND IT IS BY CONTINUING TO EAT THEM THAT SOME NIGHTMARES BECOME BOOGYMEN THEMSELVES.
Scrouiiii
AT THIS STAGE, NORMALLY, WE RESPECT ONE ANOTHER. WE STOP ACTING LIKE ANIMALS AND EATING OUR NEIGHBORS... COLLECTING LITTLE SISTERS AND EXPLOITING NIGHTMARES IN OUR OWN AREA IS ENOUGH.
BUT, IN THE END, WHEN EVERYTHING COLLAPSES AND WE KICK THE BUCKET, WE ALWAYS GO BACK TO BASICS.
A BUNCH OF LITTLE SISTERS...

THAT'S THE SECOND TIME SOMEONE'S TRIED TO KILL ME TONIGHT...
DO YOU KNOW WHO THEY ARE?
NOT REALLY.
I'VE ALWAYS LIVED HERE, FAR FROM THE BIG CITY.
BUT I'VE HEARD RUMORS...
ONE OR TWO ELDERS ESCAPED THE CITY THROUGH HERE...
ACCORDING TO THEM, A GROUP OF YOUTHS DECIDED TO GO AFTER THOSE OLDER THAN THEM...
LITTLE WISE GUYS WHO MUST HAVE THOUGHT IT WAS EASIER TO EAT THEIR ELDERS THAN TO GATHER THEIR OWN LITTLE SISTERS.
BY THE TIME THE OLD GUARD DECIDED TO GET TOGETHER AND TRY TO STOP THEM, IT WAS TOO LATE.
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE ARE ALMOST NO ELDERS LEFT, AND THE RULES DON'T APPLY ANYMORE.

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS HOW THEY WERE ABLE TO DO IT SO FAST AND AGGRESSIVELY.
IT WAS AS THOUGH THEY KNEW WHERE MOST OF US WERE.
I HEARD THAT THEY USE HUMANS AND THEIR TECHNOLOGY TO TRACK US, BUT THAT DOESN'T FULLY EXPLAIN IT.
THOSE BASTARDS HAVE ALREADY WON...
BUT THEY WON'T QUIT UNTIL THEY'VE GOTTEN ALL OF US.

THAT'S ALL I KNOW. SORRY.
YOU'D BETTER GO BEFORE OTHERS COME.
AND YOU?
FUCK THOSE LITTLE SHITS.
THIS IS MY HOME.
ARE YOU TAKING ME TO THE POLICE?
NOT YET. SOON.
WE HAVE TO GET TO THE CITY FIRST. THERE'S SOMEONE THERE THAT CAN HELP US.
AND YOU NEED SOME MONEY, JUST IN CASE.
IN CASE OF WHAT?
JUST IN CASE.

DON'T STOP! WE NEED TO FIND SHELTER! HURRY!
TACOS
PHO
PAWN
PERFECT.
WAIT HERE FOR ME. I'LL BE FIVE MINUTES.

YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT! IT'S NOT YOURS!
IT WAS MY PARENTS'! YOU STOLE IT FROM THEM!
THEY DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE.
YOU DO.

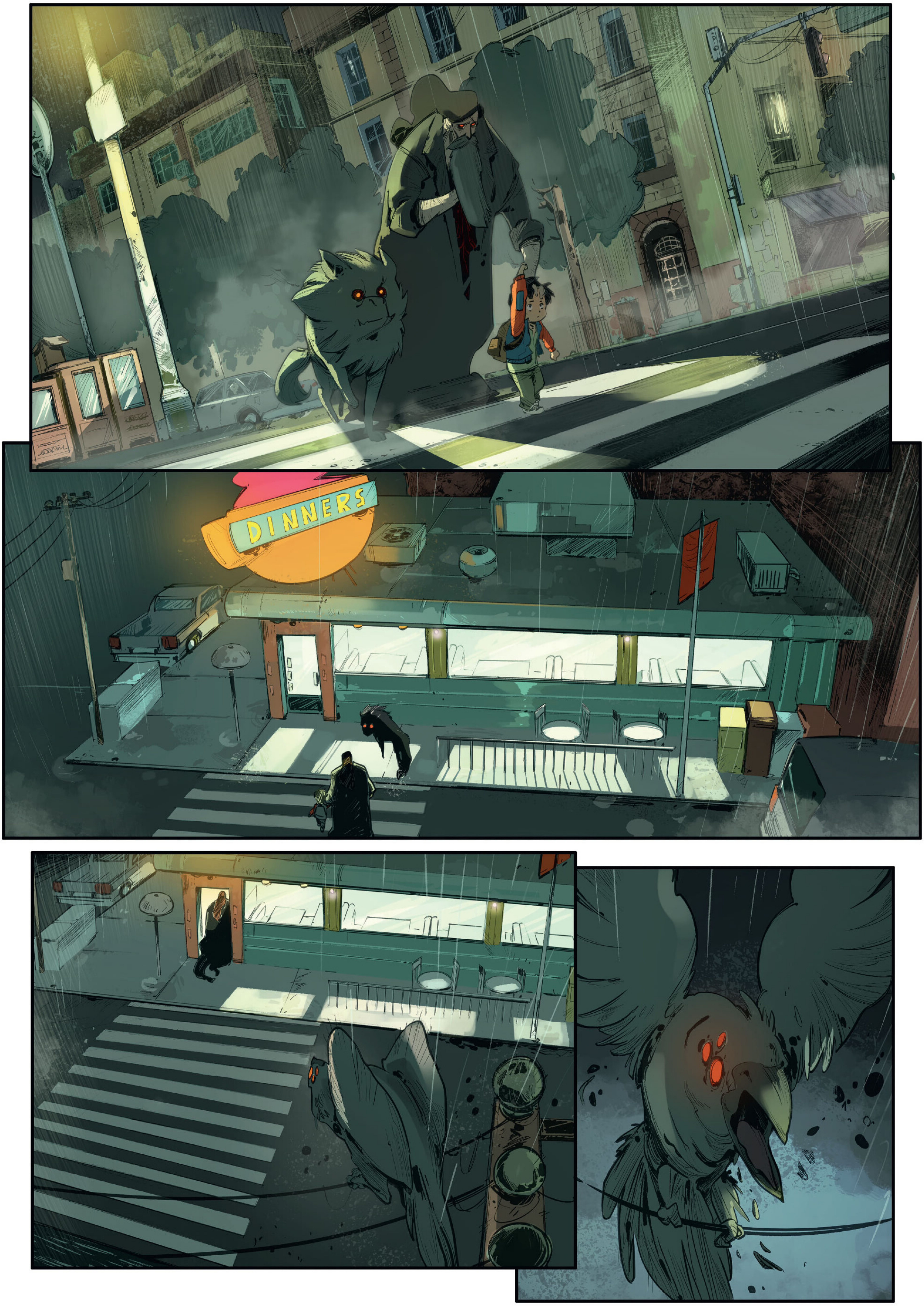
THAT'S NOT TRUE! I DON'T NEED MONEY! I DON'T NEED ANYTHING!
YOU'RE GOING TO NEED TO EAT AND SLEEP.
I WON'T NEED IT IF YOU BRING ME TO THE POLICE LIKE YOU SAID YOU WOULD!
ELLIOTT... THEY DON'T FOLLOW ANY RULES.
THE POLICE CAN'T PROTECT YOU.
YOU CAN'T EITHER!
UNDER THE BRIDGE, YOU WEREN'T EVEN ABLE TO STOP THE TWO MONSTERS!
AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO SAVE MY PARENTS!
I HATE YOU!
YOU HEAR ME?! I HATE YOU!

NO MATTER WHAT YOU THINK OF ME...
I MAY BE A MONSTER...
...BUT I'M NOT LIKE THEM.

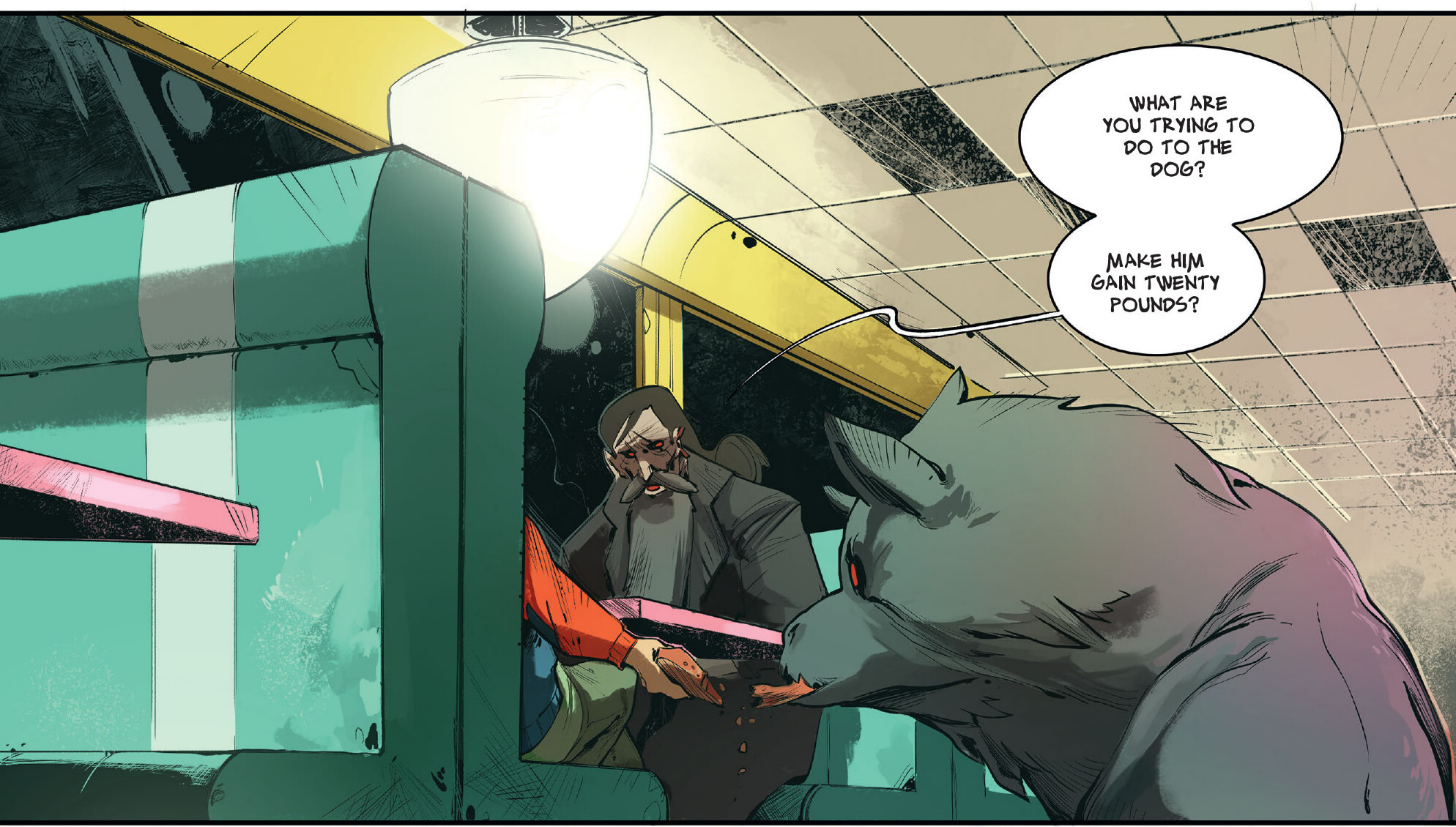
EURF
EURP
EURF
GRANDMA TELLS ME IT'S NOT THE RIGHT ONE.
EVEN BETTER!
TWO ELDERS IN ONE EVENING.
SINCE WHEN DOES THAT HAPPEN?!

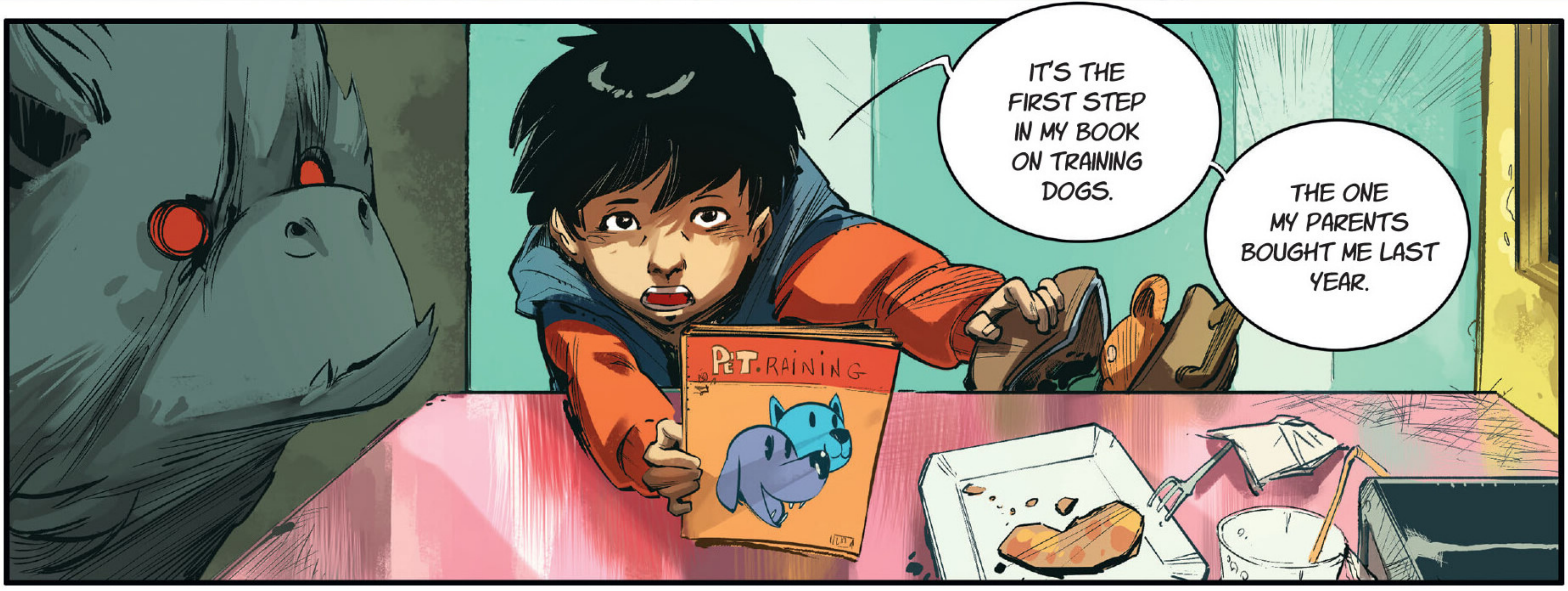
ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF
YOU DON'T REALIZE WHO YOU'RE CHASING, DO YOU?
IT'S FATHER DEATH YOU'RE CHASING, YOU FRICKIN' IDIOTS!
OH. NO ONE TOLD HIM, GUYS?
FATHER DEATH DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE, OLD FOOL...
THERE'S ONLY ME!

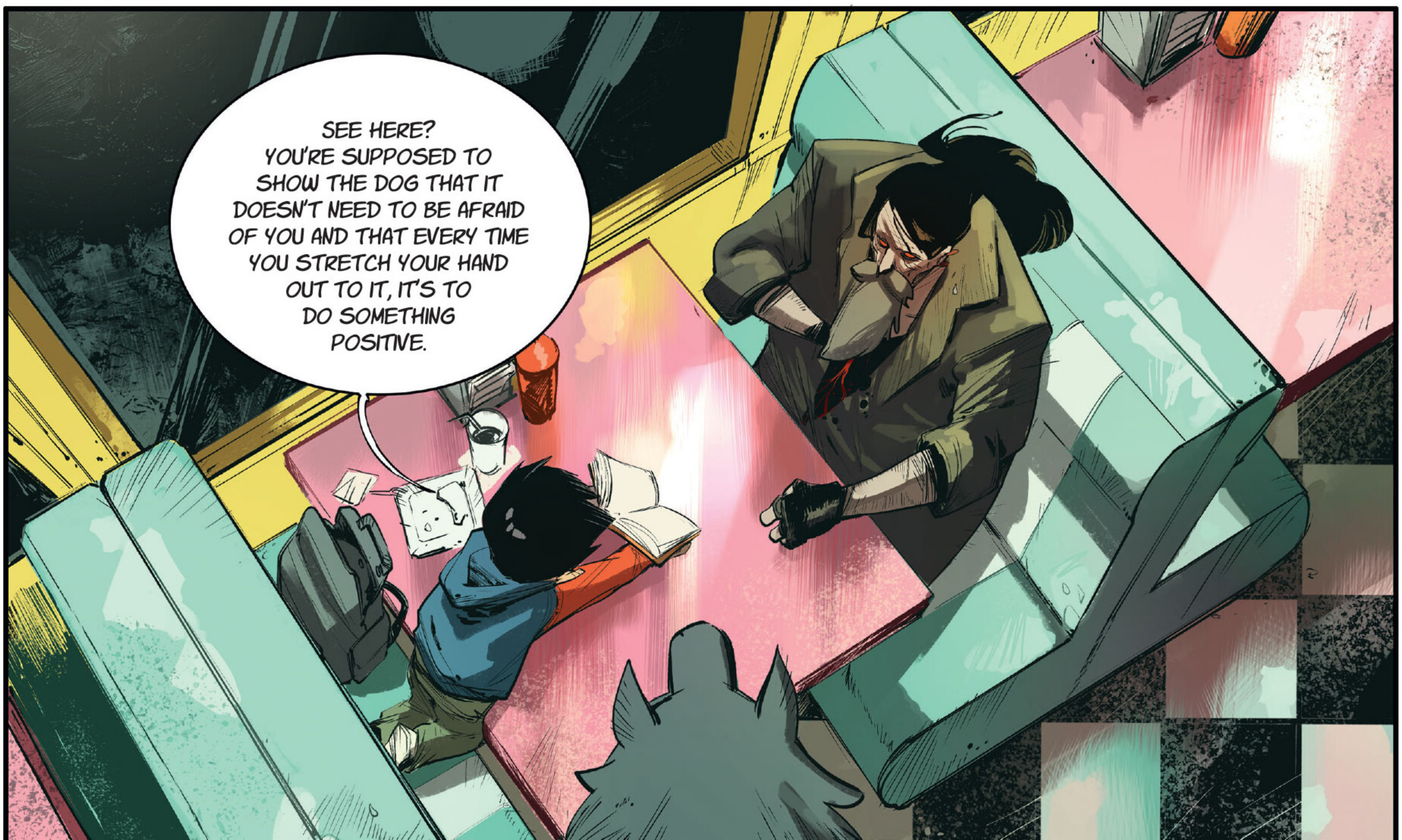
HEY...
YOU'RE NOT GONNA DIE, ARE YOU?!
NO.
NOT YET.
I JUST NEED TO REST A LITTLE.
WE NEED TO FIND COVER.


DINNERS

VERY GOOD.
NOW, TAKE YOUR TIP, AND GO READ YOUR MAGAZINES BEHIND THE COUNTER WITHOUT ASKING ANY QUESTIONS.
I DON'T GET IT...
IF YOU CAN TELL HER WHAT TO DO, WHY CAN'T YOU TELL HER TO GIVE US FOOD FOR FREE?!
BECAUSE IT WOULDN'T HAVE WORKED.
I CAN ONLY WORK WITH FEARS OR DESIRES. I CAN'T FORCE PEOPLE TO DO THINGS THEY DON'T WANT TO DO.


WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO TO THE DOG?
MAKE HIM GAIN TWENTY POUNDS?


IT'S THE FIRST STEP IN MY BOOK ON TRAINING DOGS.
THE ONE MY PARENTS BOUGHT ME LAST YEAR.
PeT.RAINING


SEE HERE? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SHOW THE DOG THAT IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE AFRAID OF YOU AND THAT EVERY TIME YOU STRETCH YOUR HAND OUT TO IT, IT'S TO DO SOMETHING POSITIVE.

THEN YOU REWARD HIM ONLY WHEN HE BEHAVES AND IS CALM, SO HE UNDERSTANDS THAT IT'S GOOD BEHAVIOR.
IT'S A NON-VIOLENT METHOD. YOU CAN'T FORCE DOGS TO DO THINGS. EVER.
YEAH...
PUSH
IN MY OPINION, HE'S EATING YOUR TREATS OUT OF GREED, AND IT WON'T STOP HIM FROM TEARING APART THE NEXT LITTLE SISTER HE COMES ACROSS. OR THE NEXT NIGHTMARE.
HE'S TOO VIOLENT. I ALREADY TOLD YOU. IT'S IN HIS NATURE.
HE WON'T CHANGE NOW.
ALL DOGS CAN CHANGE. EVEN THE WILDEST ONES.
IT SAYS SO IN MY BOOK. YOU JUST NEED TO BE PATIENT AND TRUSTING.

YOU KNOW...
I WANTED TO SAY...
I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU AND THE DOG.

HEY...
IF YOU ATE SOME LITTLE SISTERS, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD BEAT THE OTHERS?
24 DINNERS
MAYBE...
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL BE ABLE TO CONTROL MYSELF AFTERWARDS...

WHAT D'YA MEAN?
THE LITTLE SISTERS...THEY MAKE ME WANT TO DO BAD THINGS. AND I DON'T WANT TO ANYMORE.
LIKE ASKING SOMEONE TO KILL ME?
LIKE I SAID, YOU TALK TOO MUCH.

TAKE THE KID.
AND GET HIM FAR FROM HERE.
NOW!

20

CROC
HUMF
GO AND GET THE OTHERS, MY PRETTY.
THE HUNT'S OVER.

SO, YOU'RE THE ONE.
I DON'T GET IT...
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT YOU?
SLAP
THERE'S NO POINT IN FIGHTING, SWEETHEART... NONE AT ALL.
THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE YOU NOW IS TELLING ME WHERE HE IS.
NO?
YOU'D RATHER NOT TELL?

"DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHO WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, HERE?
"YOU THINK HE'S YOUR FRIEND? THAT HE CARES ABOUT YOU?
"WAKE UP, SWEETHEART. HE'S A MONSTER.
"THE WORST OF ALL OF US."

SHUT UP! YOU'RE LYING! HE'S NOT LIKE YOU! HE'S NOT LIKE...
I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO DRAW HIM HERE WITH YOUR SCREAMS, SWEETHEART. I ASKED YOU WHERE HE WAS.
OH, SHIT...

BOUH

YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED OUT OF IT, MY PRETTY, INSTEAD OF TRYING TO PLAY WITH THE BIG BOYS...
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITHOUT THE HELP OF YOUR MASTER, HUH?
EAT ME ALIVE?

CRASH!
BLAM!
BLAM.. BLAM.. BLAM
..BLAM..
BLAM...

ELLIOTT...
ELLIOTT, TURN AWAY. DON'T LOOK.
HAAAAAAAAARGLLLLLL

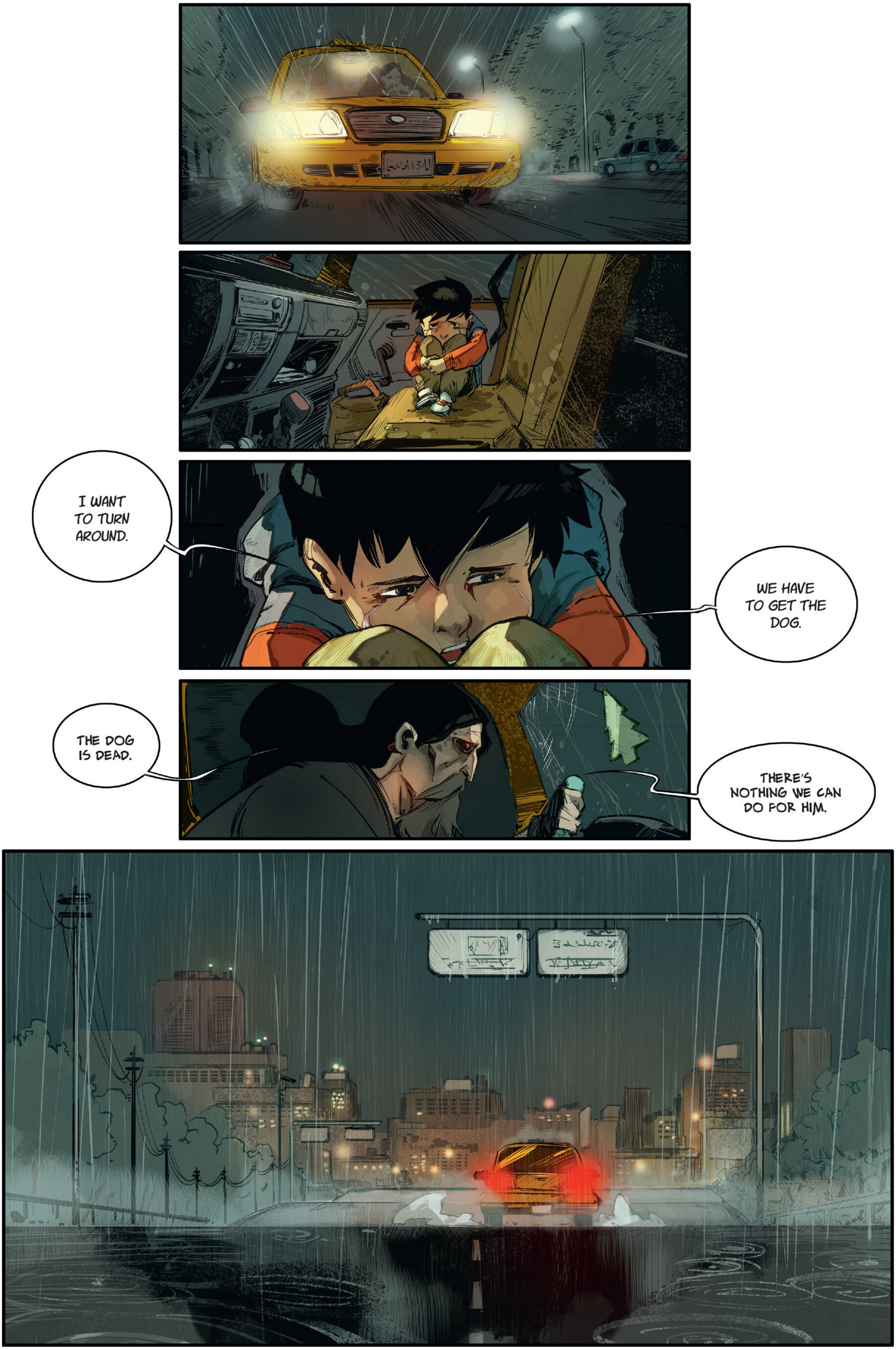
ELLIOTT?
ELLIOTT!
WE HAVE TO GO.

RUN!
HURRY UP!
NO...
NOOOOOOOO!

SCRIIIITCH!!!
TAXI FUN
Chip
FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELT!

0701
JUMP
TAKE THE WHEEL!
AAAAAH!

HUMF!!
CRAAAAAAACK


I WANT TO TURN AROUND.
WE HAVE TO GET THE DOG.
THE DOG IS DEAD.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR HIM.

HOTEL
HURRY UP. WE CAN'T STAY OUT IN THE OPEN.
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T LIKE THEM...
BUT THE WOMAN BACK THERE...THE ONE YOU...
SHE SAID...
SHE SAID THAT YOU WERE WORSE.

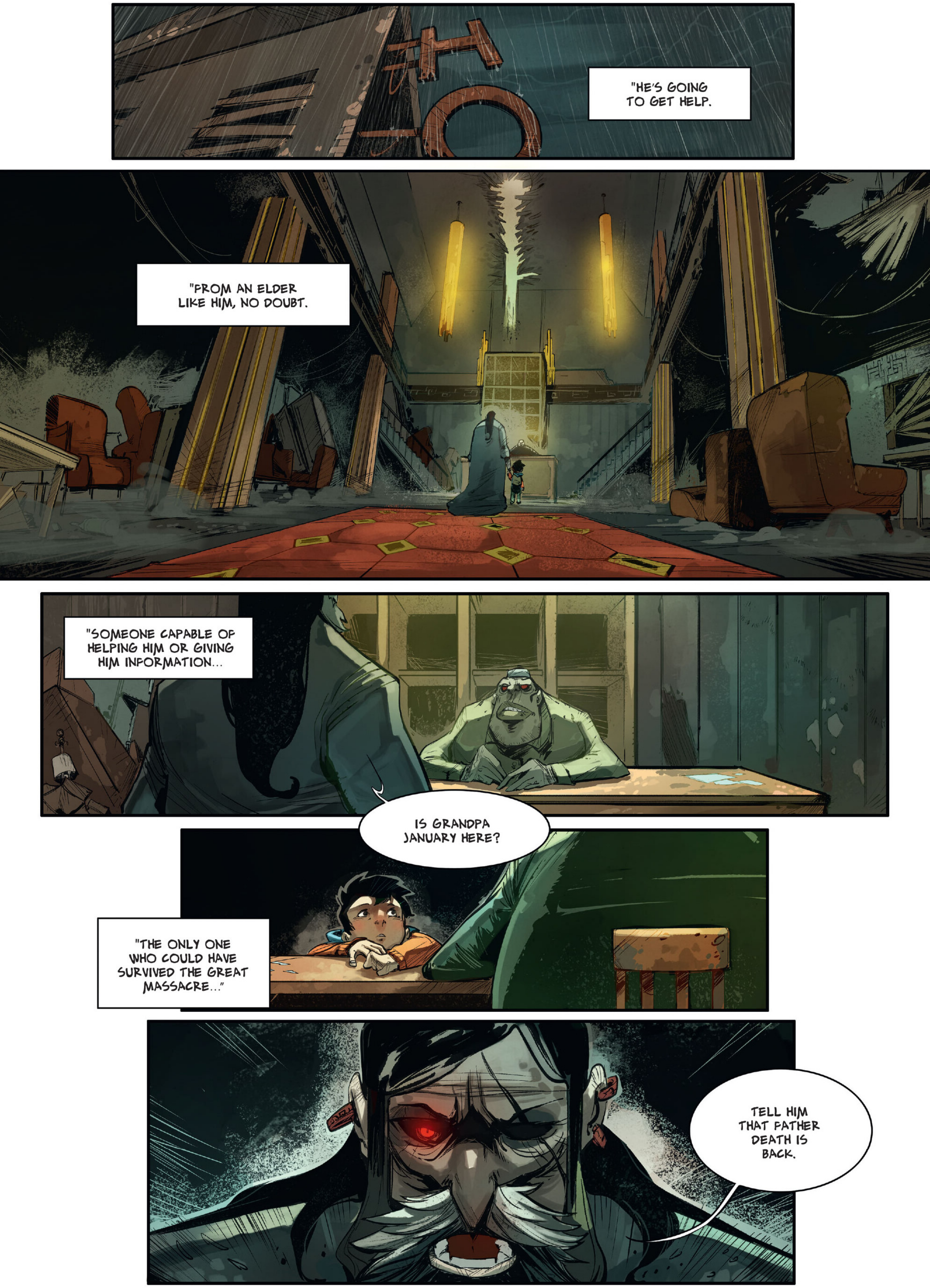
YOU KNOW WHAT I AM, ELLIOTT.
YOU ALWAYS HAVE. YOU CALLED FOR ME.
I WANT YOU TO TELL ME...
IT'S TRUE.
I PROBABLY WAS WORSE THAN THE OTHERS.
BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO. A LONG, LONG TIME AGO.
YOU SAY THAT, BUT BACK THERE...YOU WERE DIFFERENT. YOU WERE LIKE THEM...
I KNOW.
THEN I SAW YOU, AND I REMEMBERED...
YOU NEED TO TRUST ME, ELLIOTT. I'LL NEVER LET THEM HURT YOU.
WHY? WHY SHOULD I TRUST YOU?! AND WHY ARE YOU PROTECTING ME?!
WHY ME?!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT, ELLIOTT...
I'M NOT EVEN SURE IF I UNDERSTAND MYSELF.

I WAS BORN A LONG, LONG TIME AGO. I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW MANY CENTURIES I'VE BEEN ON THIS EARTH...
SOMETIMES IT FEELS LIKE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HERE, WHISPERING TO HUMANS...
PUSHING THEM TO DESTROY WHAT THEY CREATE.
TO BETRAY EVERYTHING THEY LOVE THE MOST.
TO RUIN THEIR MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS.
NO BOOGYMAN HAS LIVED AS LONG AS I HAVE.
WHEN YOU GET AS OLD AS I AM, AND YOU HAVE ALL ETERNITY AHEAD OF YOU, YOU START TO ASK YOURSELF SOME QUESTIONS...
IT'S VERY DISCONCERTING TO ASK OURSELVES QUESTIONS, AND EVEN MORE SO TO SEEK ANSWERS.

YOU NEED TIME. A LOT OF TIME.
AND CALM.
AT THE TIME, I WAS FILLED WITH FURY, RAGE, HATE, AND ANGER. I HAD ACCUMULATED SO MANY LITTLE SISTERS OVER THE YEARS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR ANYTHING ELSE.
MY BODY WAS SATURATED. ALL THOSE DARK THOUGHTS THAT WEREN'T EVEN MINE... THAT PREVENTED ME FROM THINKING...
I NEEDED A WAY TO GET RID OF THEM...TO PURGE THEM...I NEEDED TO SEE WHAT REMAINED AFTER I HAD BEEN STRIPPED OF THEM...
THAT'S HOW I CREATED THE DOG.
FROM THE DARK SIDE OF MY SOUL.
I NEVER SENT HIM AWAY...
HE WAS PERFECT FOR CHASING THE LITTLE SISTERS OUT OF THE HOUSE AND KEEPING AN EYE ON THE SURROUNDINGS.

HE WAS MY FRIEND.
BUT HE WAS ALSO THE WORST OF ME.
AND THEN YOU ARRIVED.
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I SAW HUMANS CREATE SOMETHING FRAGILE AND BEAUTIFUL. I WAS SO HAPPY JUST WATCHING YOU.
I WATCHED YOU GROW UP, CHANGE, AND EVOLVE…
I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME, ELLIOTT…
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF FASTING AND AVOIDING THE LITTLE SISTERS…I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM ANYMORE…
UNTIL THAT NIGHT…UNTIL YOU CALLED FOR ME, BEGGED ME TO COME AND GET YOU OUT FROM UNDER YOUR BED…I DIDN'T KNOW I COULD BE…SOMEONE DIFFERENT.
WHAT I DO KNOW, THOUGH, IS THAT ALL ANIMALS CAN CHANGE. EVEN THE MOST SAVAGE ONES.
YOU TOLD ME THAT, AND I NEED TO BELIEVE IT.

HA HA HA HA HA HA !
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHAT'D YA SEE?
YOU'RE RIGHT, OL' LADY... IT'S HIM. OR WHAT'S LEFT OF HIM... HA HA HA.
WHAT D'YA MEAN?
FOR SOME REASON I CAN'T EXPLAIN, FATHER DEATH, THE LEGEND DRILLED INTO OUR HEADS, CONVINCED HIMSELF THAT THE LITTLE SISTERS ARE BAD FOR HIM.
IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE THAT IDIOT NOURISHED HIMSELF! SINCE THE CREATION OF THAT NIGHTMARE!
WHICH MEANS HE'LL TRY AND GET RID OF US WITHOUT A CONFRONTATION...


"HE'S GOING TO GET HELP.
"FROM AN ELDER LIKE HIM, NO DOUBT.
"SOMEONE CAPABLE OF HELPING HIM OR GIVING HIM INFORMATION...
IS GRANDPA JANUARY HERE?
"THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HAVE SURVIVED THE GREAT MASSACRE..."
TELL HIM THAT FATHER DEATH IS BACK.

HO
I WON'T BE LONG. TRY TO GET SOME SLEEP.
WAIT...
COULD YOU STAY A LITTLE LONGER?
JUST UNTIL I FALL ASLEEP?
OF COURSE.
CLAC

TELL ME...
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE?
WE LEAVE A WHOLE LOT OF MEMORIES BEHIND US.

SOB!
EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE FINE...
I PROMISE.

KRRCROAAA!!
WELL?
SPETIN SAYS THAT THE COPS FOUND THE TAXI.
YOU WERE RIGHT...
HE WENT TO SEE GRANDPA JANUARY.
TELL HIM TO COME HERE.
IT'S TIME TO END THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL.

CLAC
KOFF KOFF...
GRANDPA JANUARY WILL SEE YOU NOW.
IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME...

THIS WAY.
INCREDIBLE.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...
FATHER DEATH! IN THE FLESH!
BACK FROM THE DEAD TO SAVE US!

I NEED YOUR HELP...
GRANDPA.
MY HELP?
MY HELP? IS THAT A FUCKIN' JOKE?
YOU NEED MY HELP.
MINE.
YOU DISAPPEAR OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH WHEN THE WHOLE WORLD NEEDS YOU...
AND YOU RESURFACE YEARS LATER IN FRONT OF ME WITH A HUMAN BOY, AND YOU ASK ME FOR HELP?
IS THIS A FUCKING JOKE?!
I JUST WANT YOU TO PUT ME IN CONTACT WITH THE OTHERS...THE ONES WHO SURVIVED.
THEN I'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE.
THE OTHERS?! WHAT OTHERS?!
SHIT. WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?! THE OLD GUARD WAS WIPED OUT OVER TEN YEARS AGO!
THERE ARE NO OTHERS! WE'RE THE ONLY ONES LEFT!

WAIT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...ONLY THE TWO OF US?
WHAT HAPPENED?!
YOU DISAPPEARED. THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
AND THAT GAVE OTHER FOLKS IDEAS...

"WE WERE TOO SURE OF OURSELVES...
GODST
"TOO SURE OF OUR STRENGTH...
"TOO SURE OF OUR SACROSANCT RULES...
"AND, BY THE TIME WE WOKE UP...
"IT WAS TOO LATE."

"THEY STARTED WITH YOUR NUMBER TWO, MISTER MISERY.
"YOU REMEMBER HIM, DON'T YOU? AT THE TIME, YOU CONSIDERED HIM LIKE A BROTHER.
"THEY WENT TO HIS HOME TO HARVEST HIM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT."

GRAB
"FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, HE FOUGHT HARD...
"BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH.
"IN THE END, THERE WAS ONLY ONE LEFT FOR THE FEAST...
"AND, JUDGING FROM YOUR INJURIES, YOU'VE ALREADY MET HIM.
"HIM OR ONE OF HIS LACKEYS..."

BY THE TIME THE OLD GUARD GOT TOGETHER THE NEXT MORNING, HALF OF US HAD PASSED DURING THE NIGHT.
IT WAS ALREADY OVER, BUT WE DIDN'T KNOW IT YET.
"THE GREAT MASSACRE," THEY CALLED IT...
THOSE BASTARDS.
AND NOW I'M THE ONLY ONE LEFT.
ME AND ALL I COULD SAVE, OF COURSE.

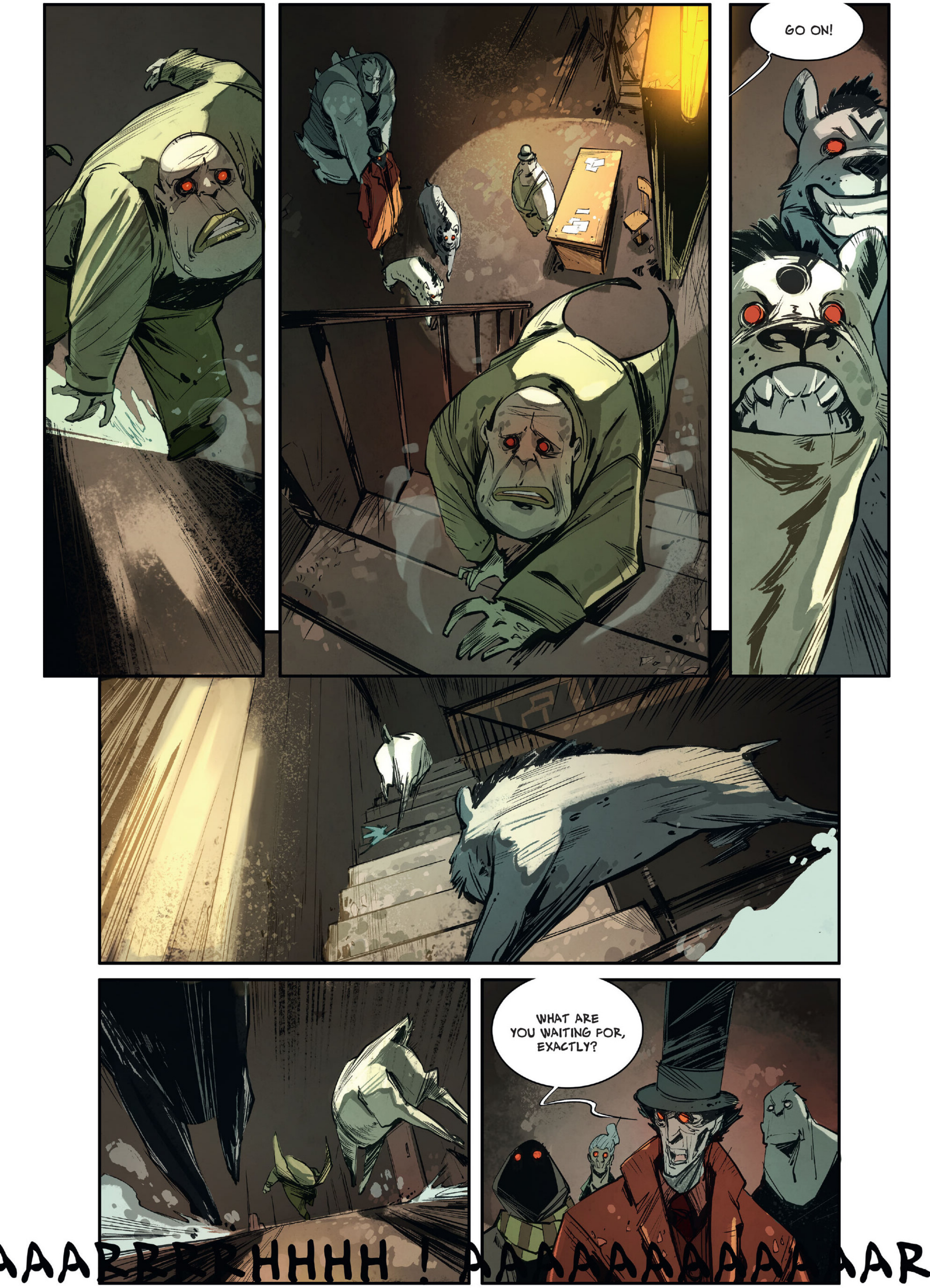
NO...
NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
HOW DID THEY KNOW HOW TO FIND MISTER MISERY?! AND ALL THE OTHERS?
NO ONE BUT THE OLD GUARD KNEW! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
HANG ON A MINUTE...
HOW DID YOU GET OUT ALIVE, GRANDPA?
WHY'D THEY SPARE YOU? THAT MAKES NO SENSE.
I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO TO PROTECT OUR HERITAGE...
AND PREPARE FOR YOUR RETURN.

YOU SOLD THEM OUT.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD THEM WHERE THEY COULD FIND OUR BROTHERS.
WOULD YOU HAVE PREFERRED THAT THEY'D GOTTEN ME, TOO? THAT THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO ONE LEFT TO WELCOME YOU TONIGHT? OR TO GIVE YOU YOUR SCYTHE?!
YOU PREFER THAT ALL THIS HAD FALLEN INTO THEIR HANDS?
THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY ROLE! THE GUARDIAN OF OUR PAST! THE GUARDIAN OF OUR TRADITIONS! NOTHING HAS CHANGED!
OH, NO, NO, NO, NO...
I REFUSE TO LET YOU LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT! YOU'RE THE ONE THAT WALKED AWAY!
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT CONDEMNED US! DON'T TRY TO PUT THAT ON ME!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
YOU DID IT ALL FOR NOTHING.
I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF THEM. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
YOU HAVE TO...YOU REALLY HAVE TO HELP ME.
I DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH. I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I GOT HERE.
HEY, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO FATHER DEATH?! THE "WAR LORD"?
THE ONE WHO COULD RAISE AN ARMY OF NIGHTMARES AT THE SNAP OF HIS FINGERS?
THAT'S NOT ME ANYMORE. I'VE CHANGED. EVOLVED.
INTO WHAT? THIS?!
I LIKED YOU BETTER BEFORE.

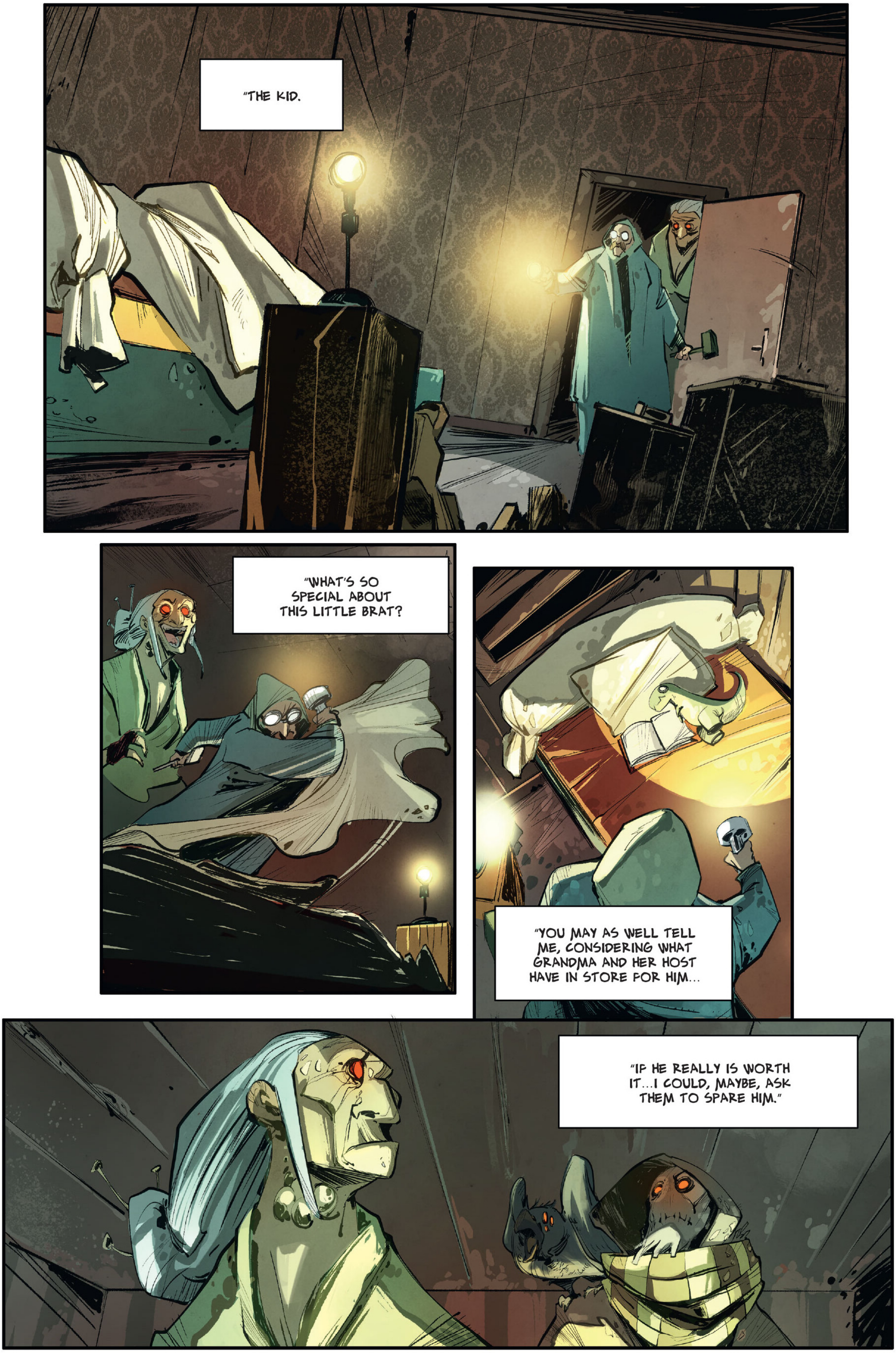
TAKE A GOOD LOOK.
IT COST THE LIVES OF ALL OUR FRIENDS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WENT OFF IN SEARCH OF ALL THESE YEARS...
BUT IT'S IN YOUR BEST INTEREST TO FIND IT NOW. OTHERWISE, IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING.
YOU'LL SEND ALL OF US TO OUR GRAVES.
STARTING WITH THE KID.

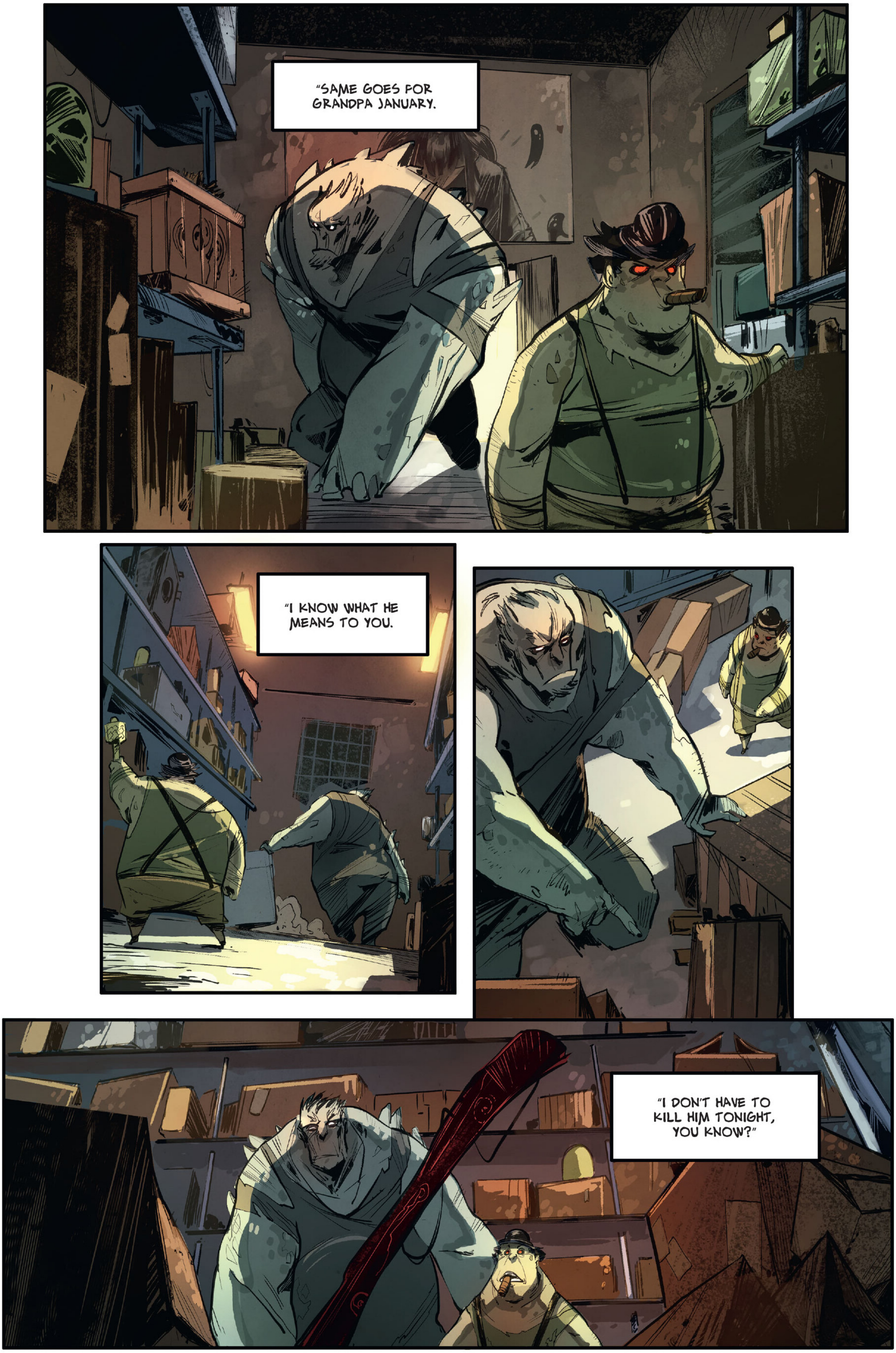
KRRGLLLGLLL...
KLLGLGLLL...PLEASE...
ROOM 12, BOSS.
12
RUN.


GO ON!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, EXACTLY?
AAARRRRRHHHH ! AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAR

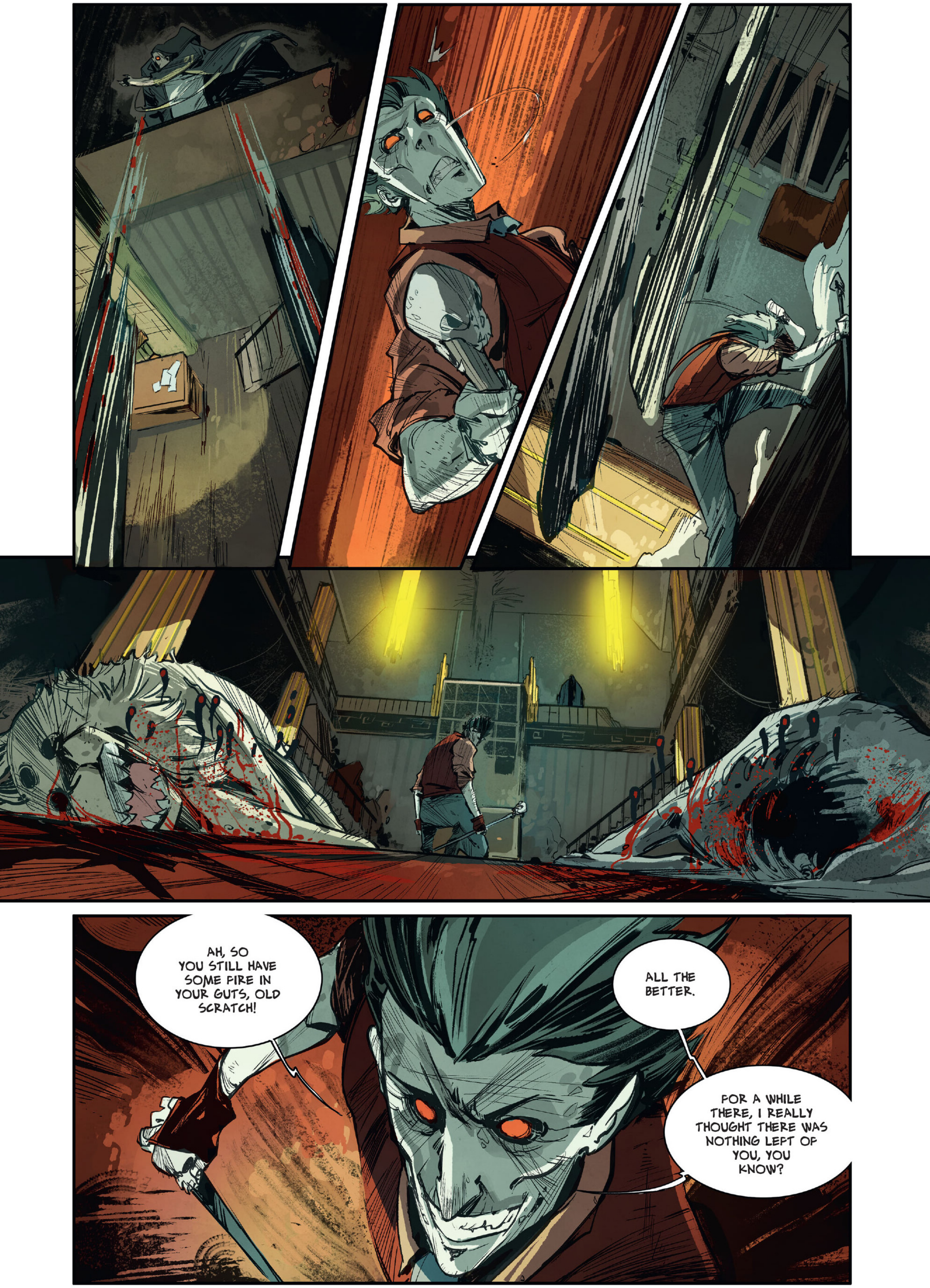
"BRING ME THAT IMPOSTOR...
"AND DON'T FORGET HIS BIG SCYTHE.
"SO THAT EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS THAT FATHER DEATH NO LONGER EXISTS.
"THERE'S JUST ME."

COME ON... I KNOW YOU'RE HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAVE? I'VE ALREADY TAKEN EVERYTHING FROM YOU.
YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR BROTHERS, AND EVEN YOUR PRECIOUS DOG...
WHAT'S LEFT?
NOTHING.
AH, YES, I FORGOT...


"THE KID.
"WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS LITTLE BRAT?
"YOU MAY AS WELL TELL ME, CONSIDERING WHAT GRANDMA AND HER HOST HAVE IN STORE FOR HIM...
"IF HE REALLY IS WORTH IT...I COULD, MAYBE, ASK THEM TO SPARE HIM."


"SAME GOES FOR GRANDPA JANUARY.
"I KNOW WHAT HE MEANS TO YOU.
"I DON'T HAVE TO KILL HIM TONIGHT, YOU KNOW?"

"ALL YOU NEED TO DO...
"IS TO END THIS FARCE AND COME OUT OF HIDING.
"WHAT D'YOU THINK, GRANDPA?
"PRETTY REASONABLE, RIGHT?"


AH, SO YOU STILL HAVE SOME FIRE IN YOUR GUTS, OLD SCRATCH!
ALL THE BETTER.
FOR A WHILE THERE, I REALLY THOUGHT THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT OF YOU, YOU KNOW?

ALL RIGHT. ENOUGH, NOW...
SHOW ME WHAT YOU'RE REALLY MADE OF.

DISPATCH, THIS IS CAR 203. WE JUST FOUND THE TAXI.
SPLORCH!!
EVERYTHING'S QUIET. NOTHING TO REPORT.
WE'RE GONNA CHECK OUT THE HOTEL, OVER.

POLICE!
ANYONE HERE?
D'YA HEAR THAT?
WHAT?

DROP YOUR WEAPON! DROP YOUR WEAPON!
DROP IT!
G-LONG

THIS IS YOURS, I BELIEVE.
HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU ATE GRANDPA JANUARY?!
YES?!
IS THAT IT?!
FUCK, THAT'S IT!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, GRAMPS?!
AFTER RUNNING ALL NIGHT, YOU ATE THE ONLY FRIEND YOU HAD LEFT?
IT'S THE KID, RIGHT?
IT'S ALL ABOUT PROTECTING HIM?!
YOU'RE GONNA DIE TONIGHT, POPS...
...BUT, BEFORE THAT, YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THE BRAT.

"THE FEAR...
"...THE PAIN...
"...THE BLOOD..."

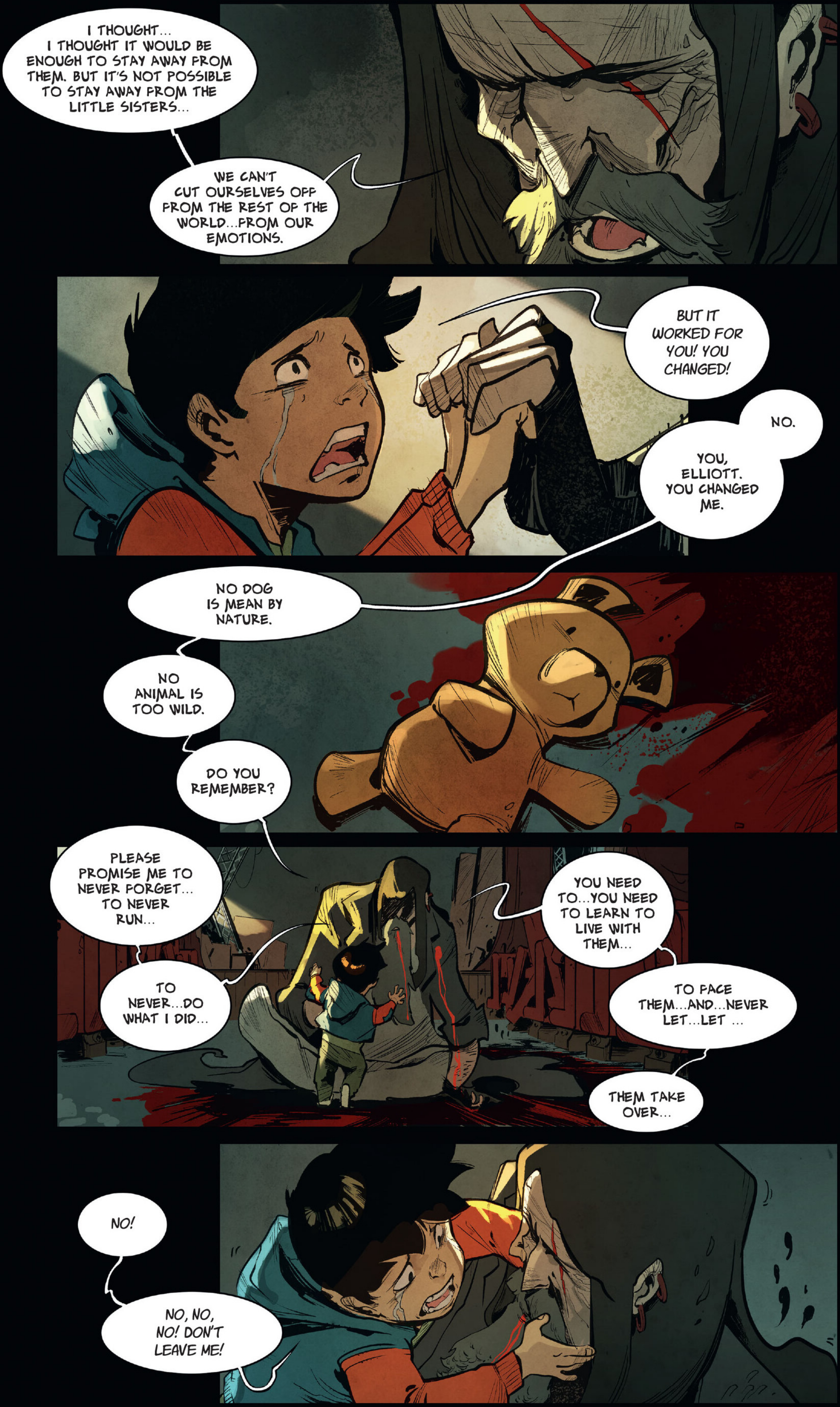
"IT'S ALL THERE.
"PERMANENTLY ETCHED."
YOU THINK... DO YOU THINK THIS WILL CHANGE ANYTHING?!
HUH?
"THE REST..."
NOTHING'S GONNA CHANGE! NOTHING!
THERE WILL BE OTHERS AFTER ME! YOU THINK I'M THE ONLY ONE THAT WANTS YOUR POWER?
THAT WANTS YOUR TITLE?!
"THE REST ISN'T IMPORTANT.
"I KNOW WHAT I LIVED THROUGH THAT NIGHT."

WAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!
"I NEEDED A MONSTER.
"THE WORST OF THEM ALL.
"AND YOU ANSWERED THE CALL."

PLEASE...
STOP NOW.
IT'S OVER.
YOU DON'T NEED TO--
ARF
ARF
AAAAAAAA

COME BACK.
PLEASE...

WE DID IT, ELLIOTT...
YOU CAN...YOU CAN GO TO THE POLICE NOW.
NO!
ELLIOTT...
I WANT TO STAY WITH YOU!
ELLIOTT, LISTEN TO ME.
NO! YOU CAN'T DIE! YOU PROMISED!
STOP, LISTEN TO ME.
NO!
YOU'RE GOING TO EAT LITTLE SISTERS! AND IT'LL BE THE LAST TIME! AND AFTER... AFTER, WE'LL GO SOMEWHERE WHERE THERE AREN'T ANY! WHERE THERE ARE NO MONSTERS! WHERE IT'LL BE JUST YOU AND ME!
IT DOESN'T WORK LIKE THAT, ELLIOTT! I WAS WRONG.
I WAS WRONG FROM THE START...


I THOUGHT… I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE ENOUGH TO STAY AWAY FROM THEM. BUT IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO STAY AWAY FROM THE LITTLE SISTERS…
WE CAN'T CUT OURSELVES OFF FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD…FROM OUR EMOTIONS.
BUT IT WORKED FOR YOU! YOU CHANGED!
NO.
YOU, ELLIOTT. YOU CHANGED ME.
NO DOG IS MEAN BY NATURE.
NO ANIMAL IS TOO WILD.
DO YOU REMEMBER?
PLEASE PROMISE ME TO NEVER FORGET… TO NEVER RUN…
TO NEVER…DO WHAT I DID…
YOU NEED TO…YOU NEED TO LEARN TO LIVE WITH THEM…
TO FACE THEM…AND…NEVER LET…LET …
THEM TAKE OVER…
NO!
NO, NO, NO! DON'T LEAVE ME!

PLEASE...I'M BEGGING YOU! NOT YOU!
NOT YOU!
ELLIOTT...
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU?
AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NIGHT?
IT'S OVER...NOW. YOU DON'T NEED TO...
BE...
NO! GET UP! I SAID GET UP!
YOU PROMISED!

PLEASE...DON'T LEAVE ME.

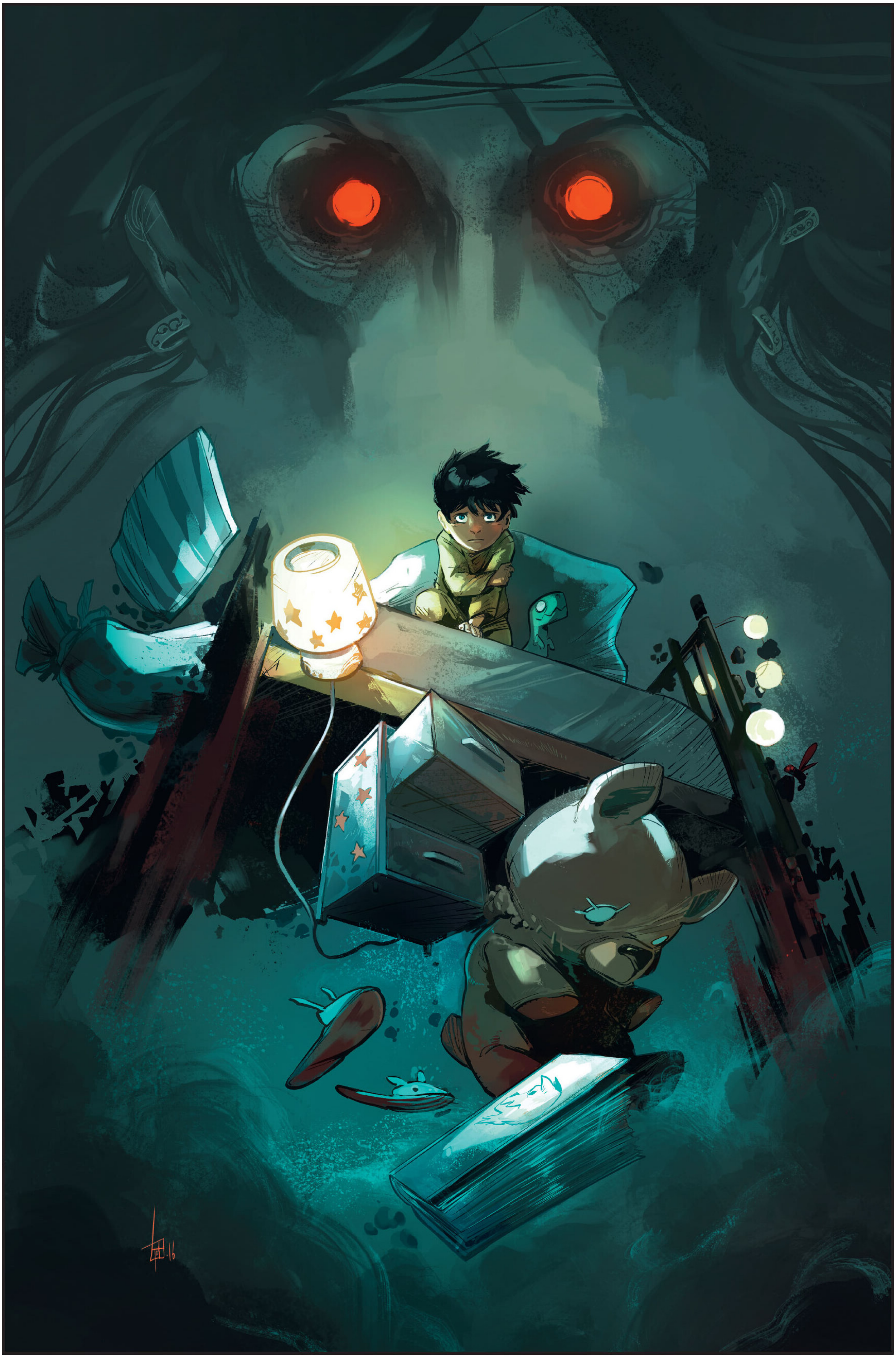
I FOUND HIM!
HE'S HERE!
CALL AN AMBULANCE!
"IT TOOK ME SOME TIME, YOU KNOW.
"A LIFETIME.
"BUT I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD."

"MY FATHER WAS RIGHT.
"MONSTERS...DON'T EXIST."

I NEVER GAVE UP, YOU KNOW.
I NEVER RAN AWAY, EITHER.
I KNOW.
BIP
BIP

CMT
S+D
17

COVER GALLERY



#1 MAIN COVER BY **DJET**

NO TREPASSING

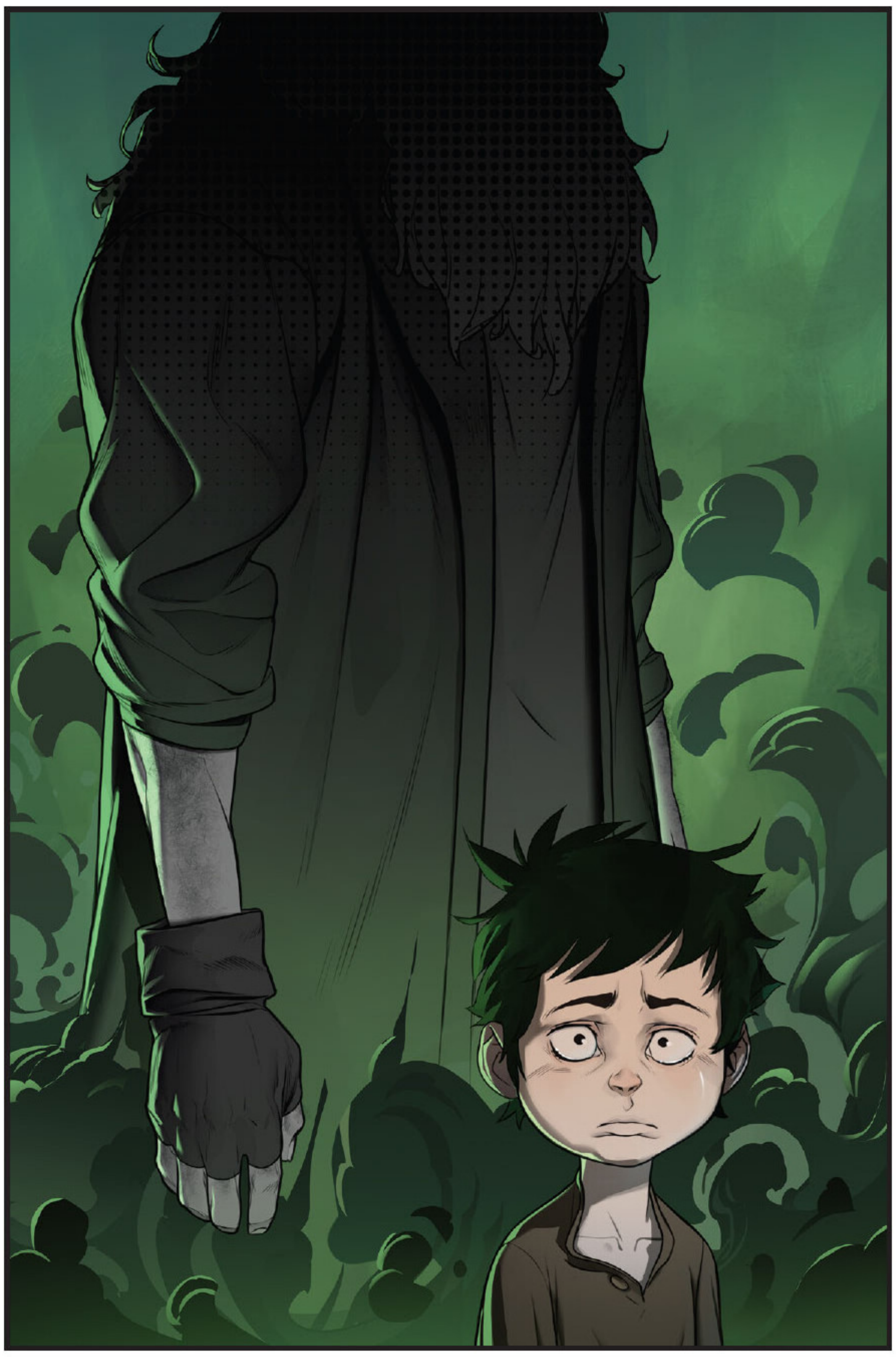
#2 MAIN COVER BY **DJET**

#3 MAIN COVER BY **DJET**

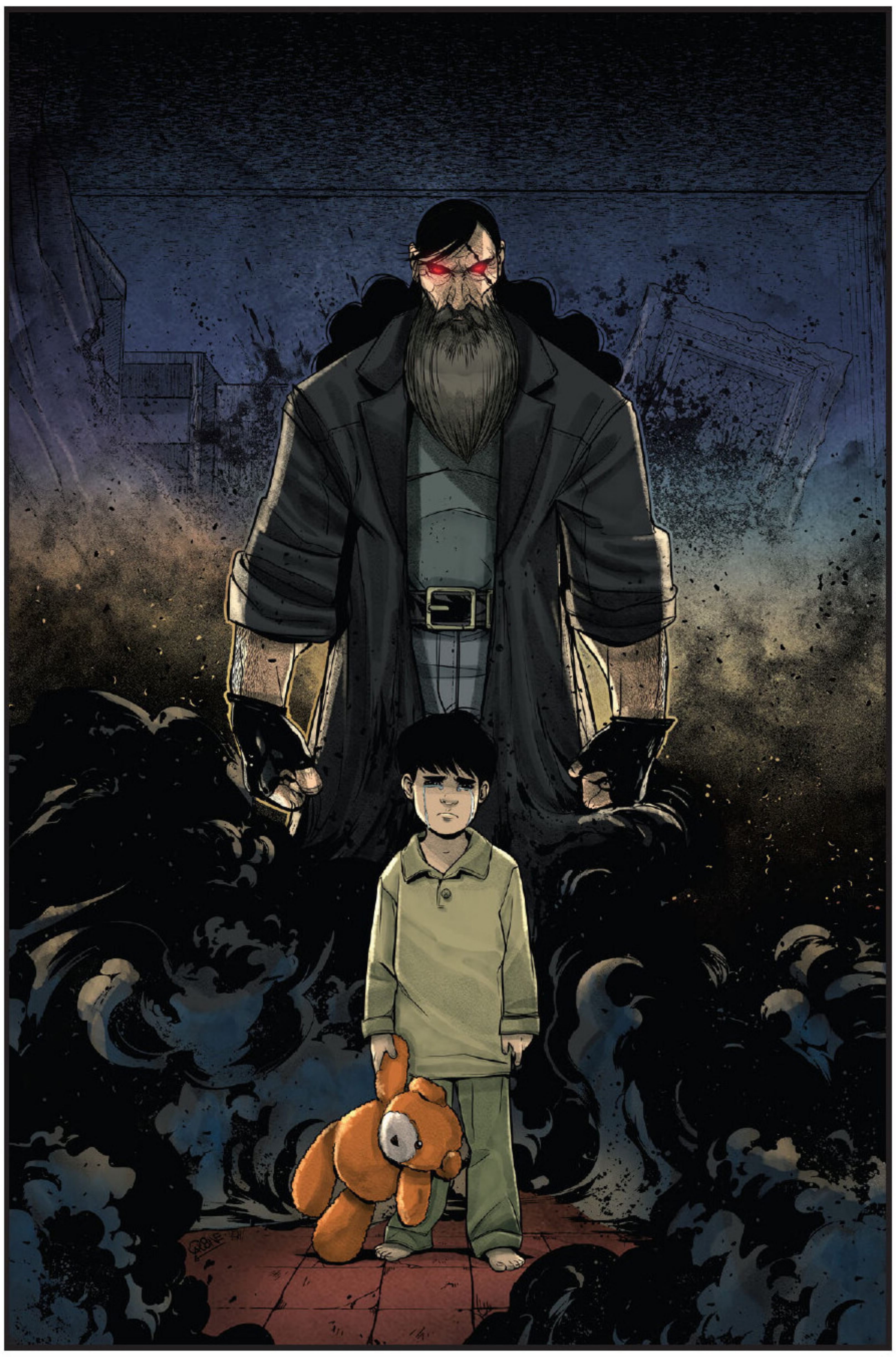
#4 MAIN COVER BY **DJET**

#5 MAIN COVER BY **DJET**

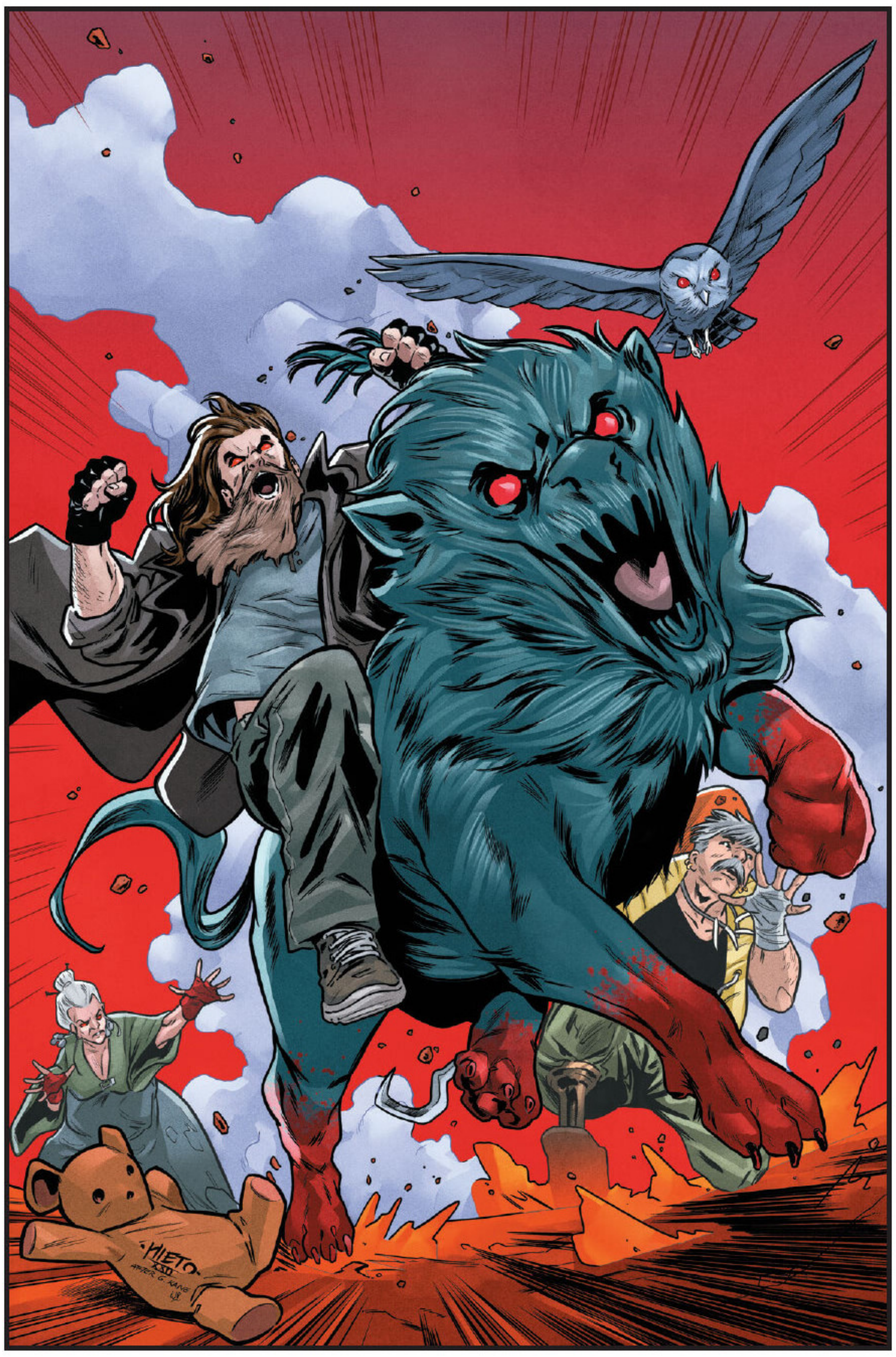
#6 MAIN COVER BY **DJET**



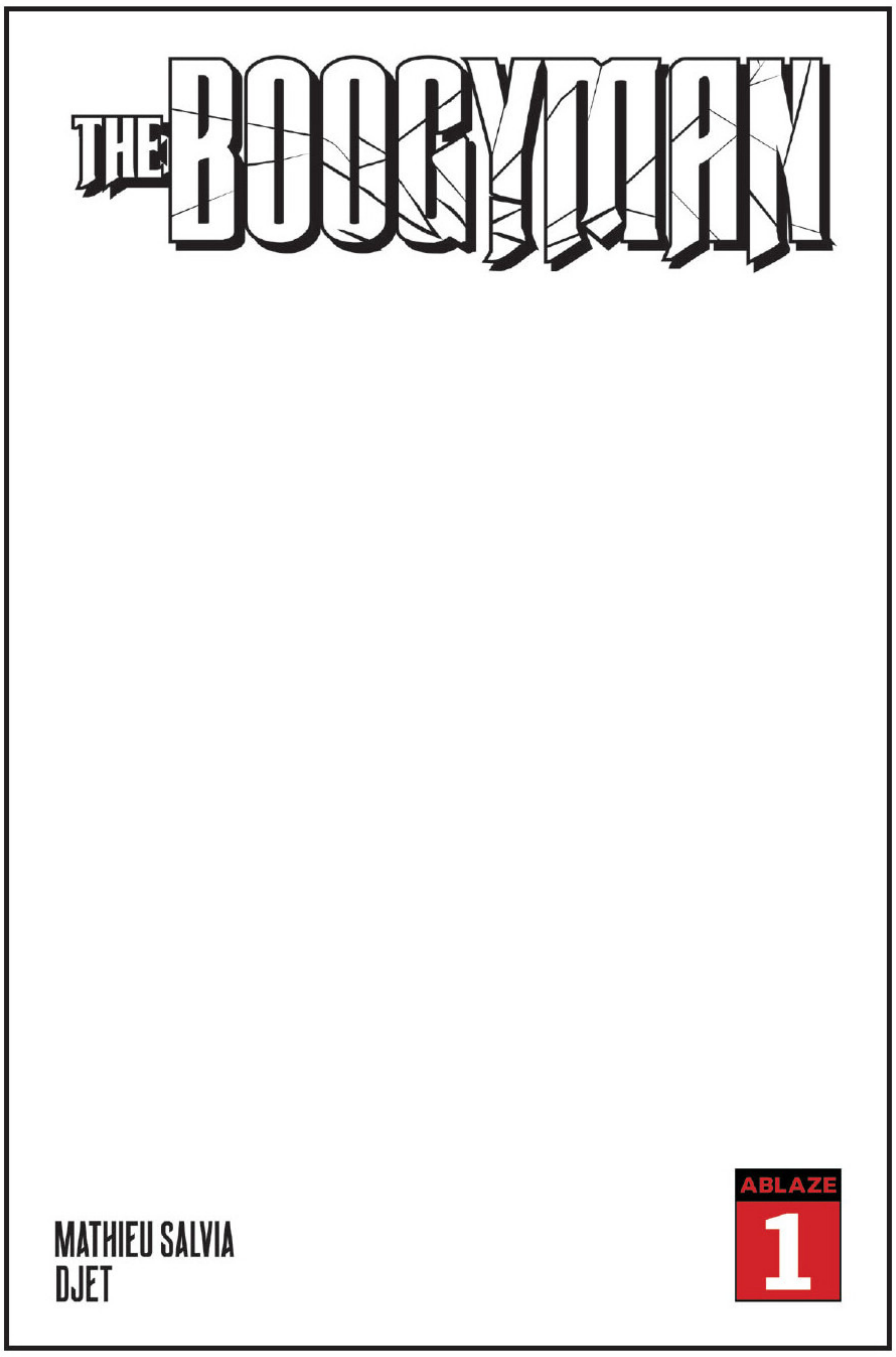
#1 VARIANT COVER BY **GABRIEL GOMEZ**



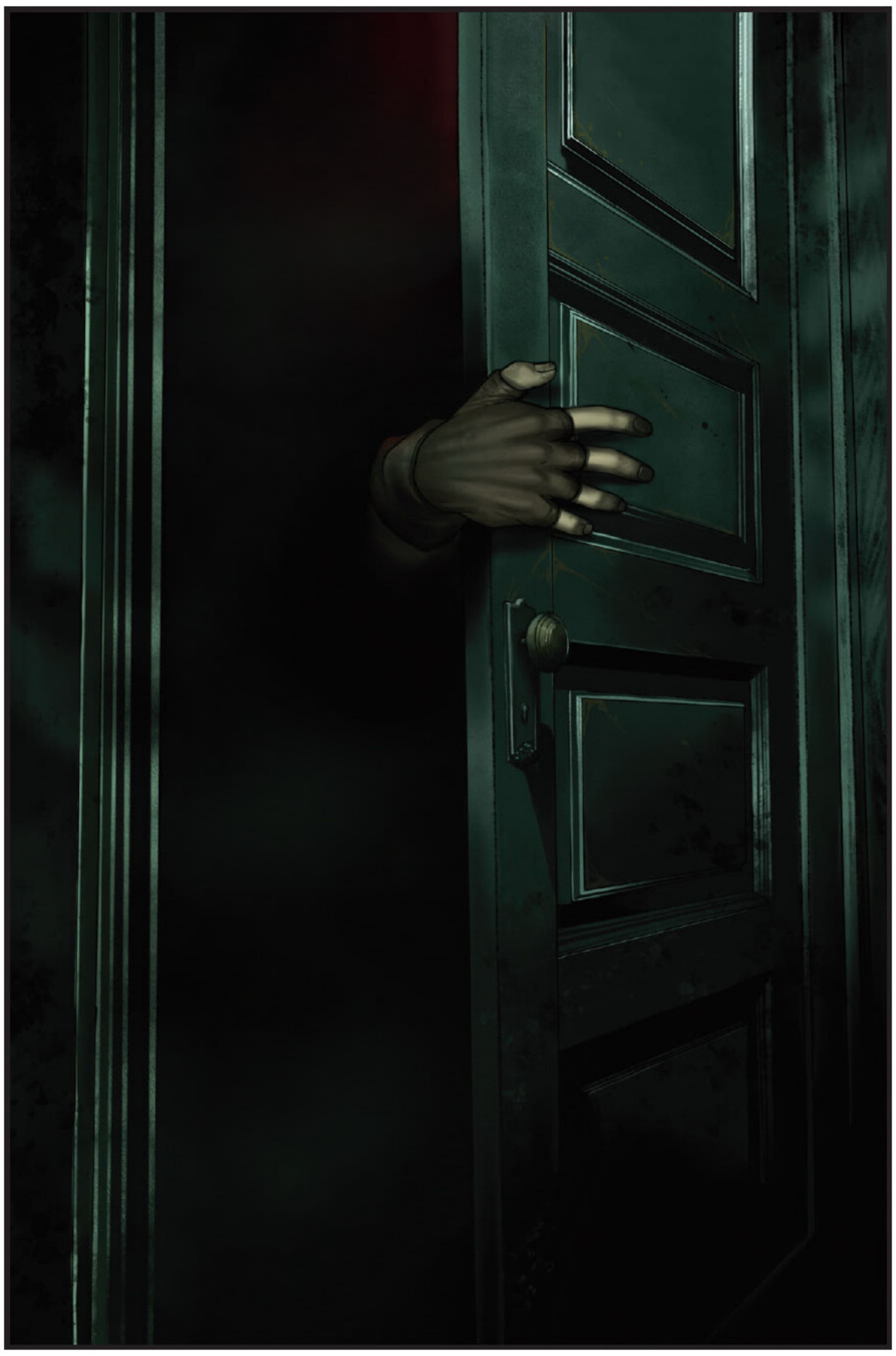
#1 VARIANT COVER BY **RUBINE**
WITH COLORS BY **VALENTINA PINTO**



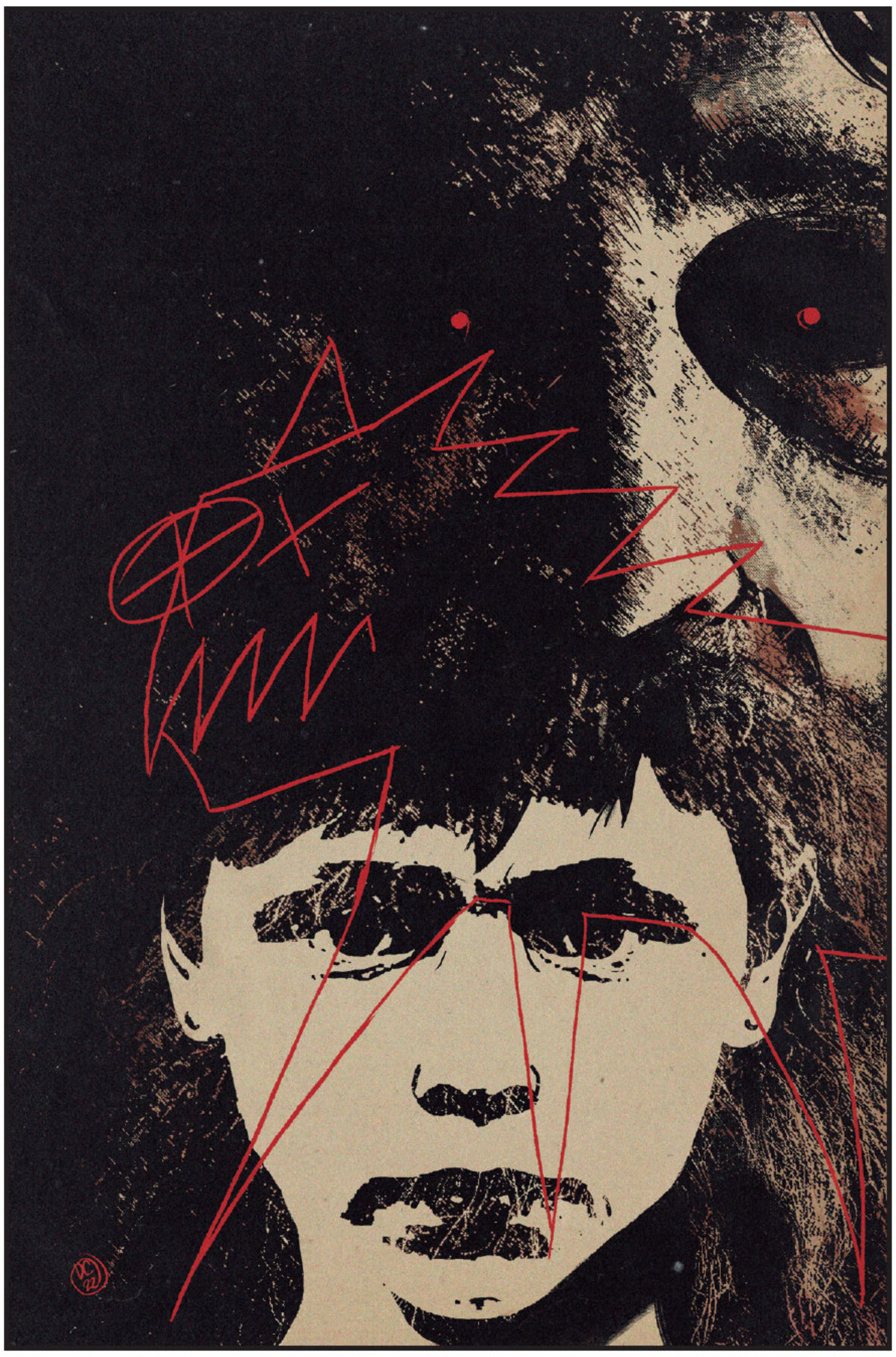
#1 *GHOST RIDER #1* PARODY VARIANT COVER
BY **CARLOS NIETO** WITH COLORS BY **WALTER PEREYRA**


THE BOOGYMAN
MATHIEU SALVIA
DJET
ABLAZE
1

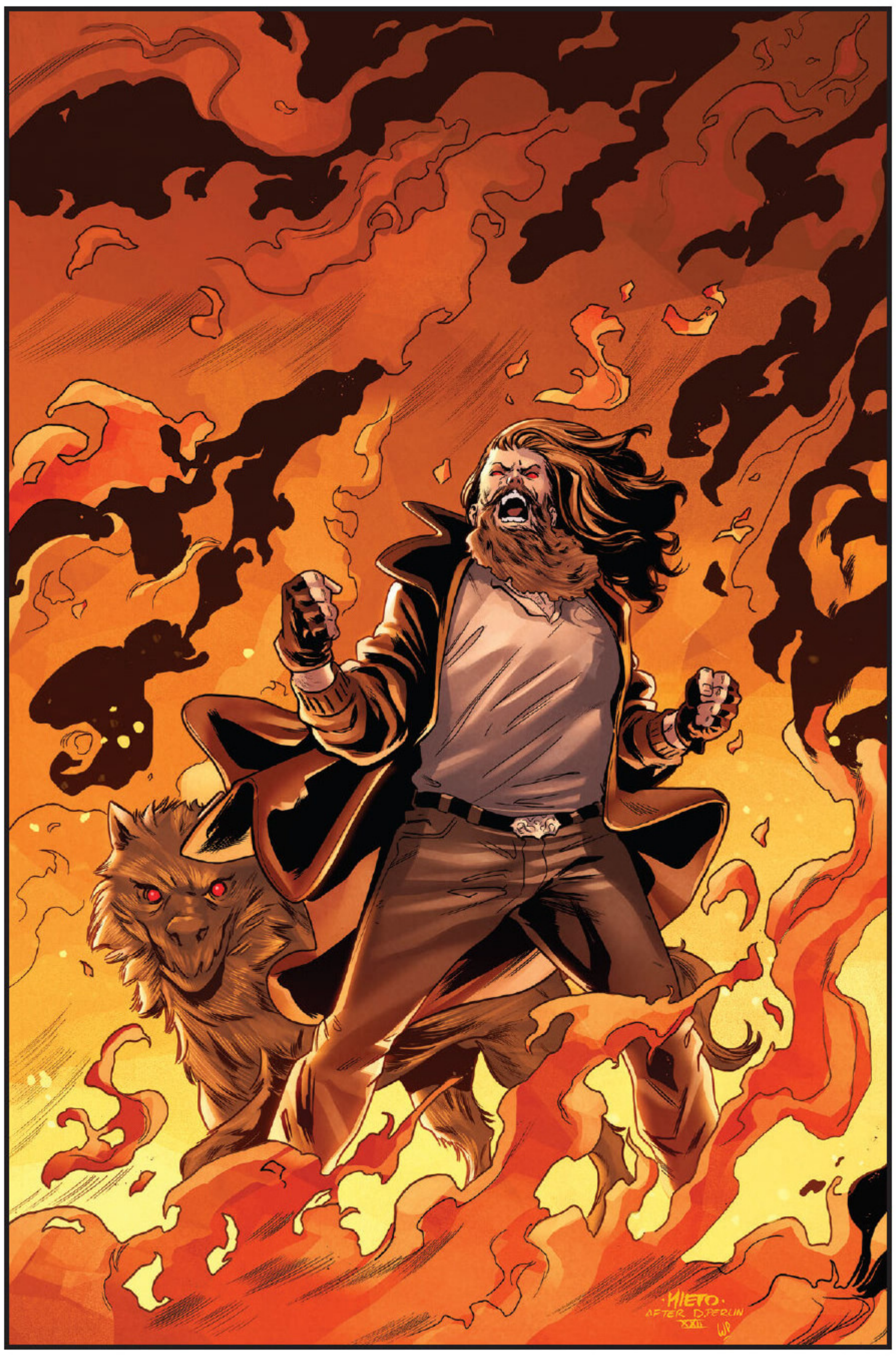
#1 GLOW-IN-THE-DARK BLANK VARIANT COVER



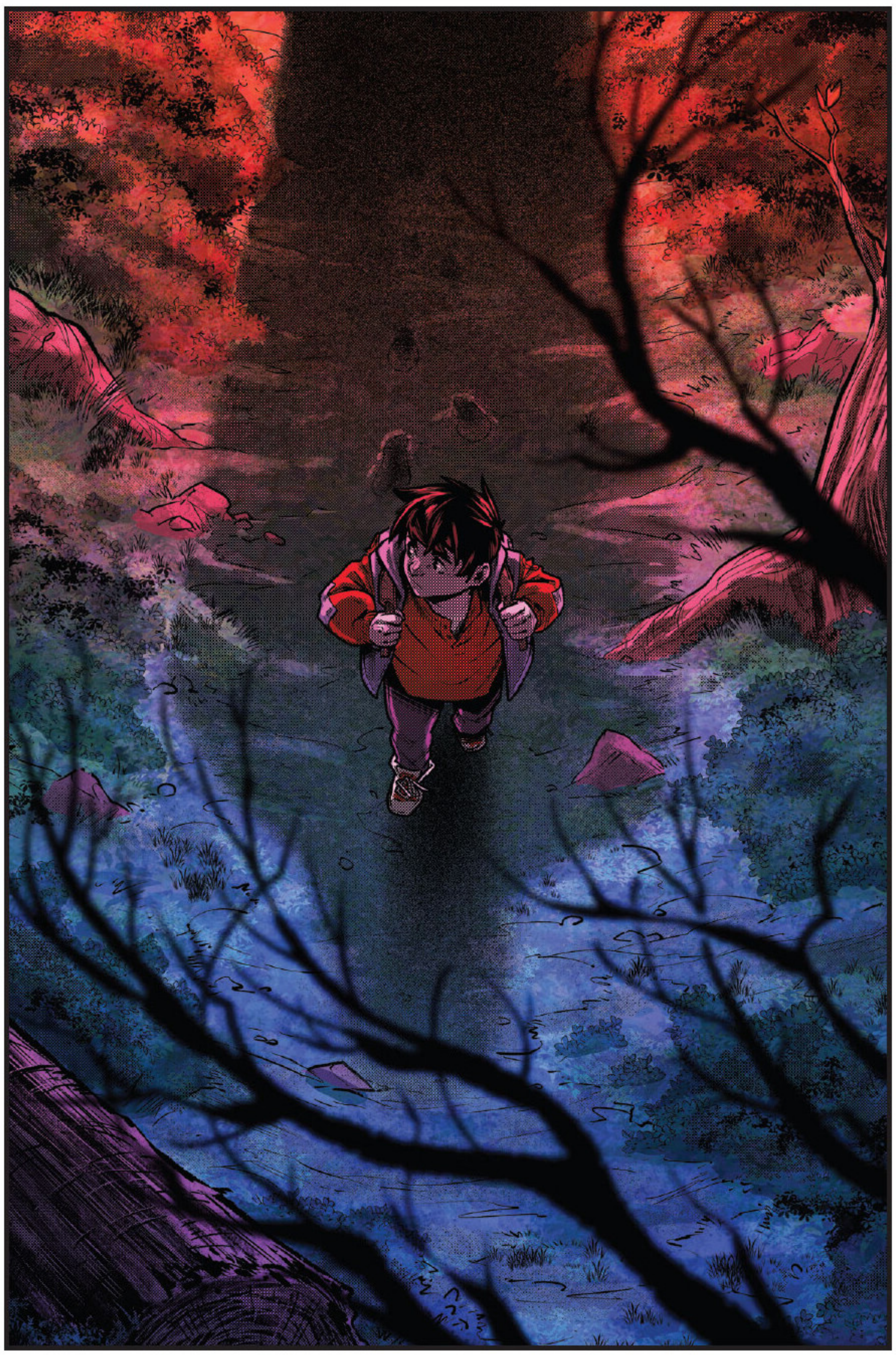
#1 COMICXPOSURE EXCLUSIVE VARIANT COVER
BY **NATE MELENDEZ**



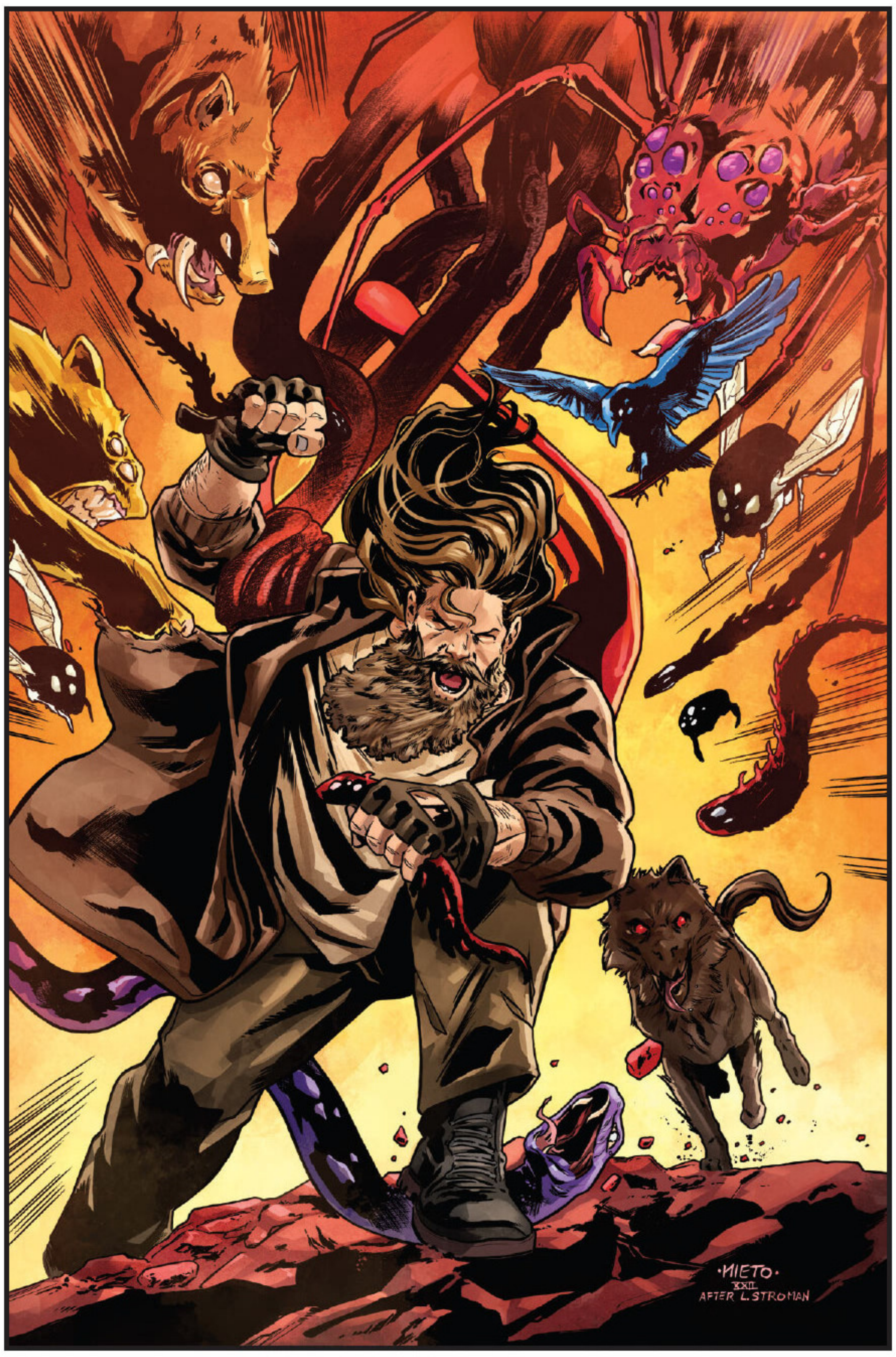
#2 VARIANT COVER BY **DAMIAN CONNELLY**


NIETO
AFTER D.PERLIN
XXII
WP

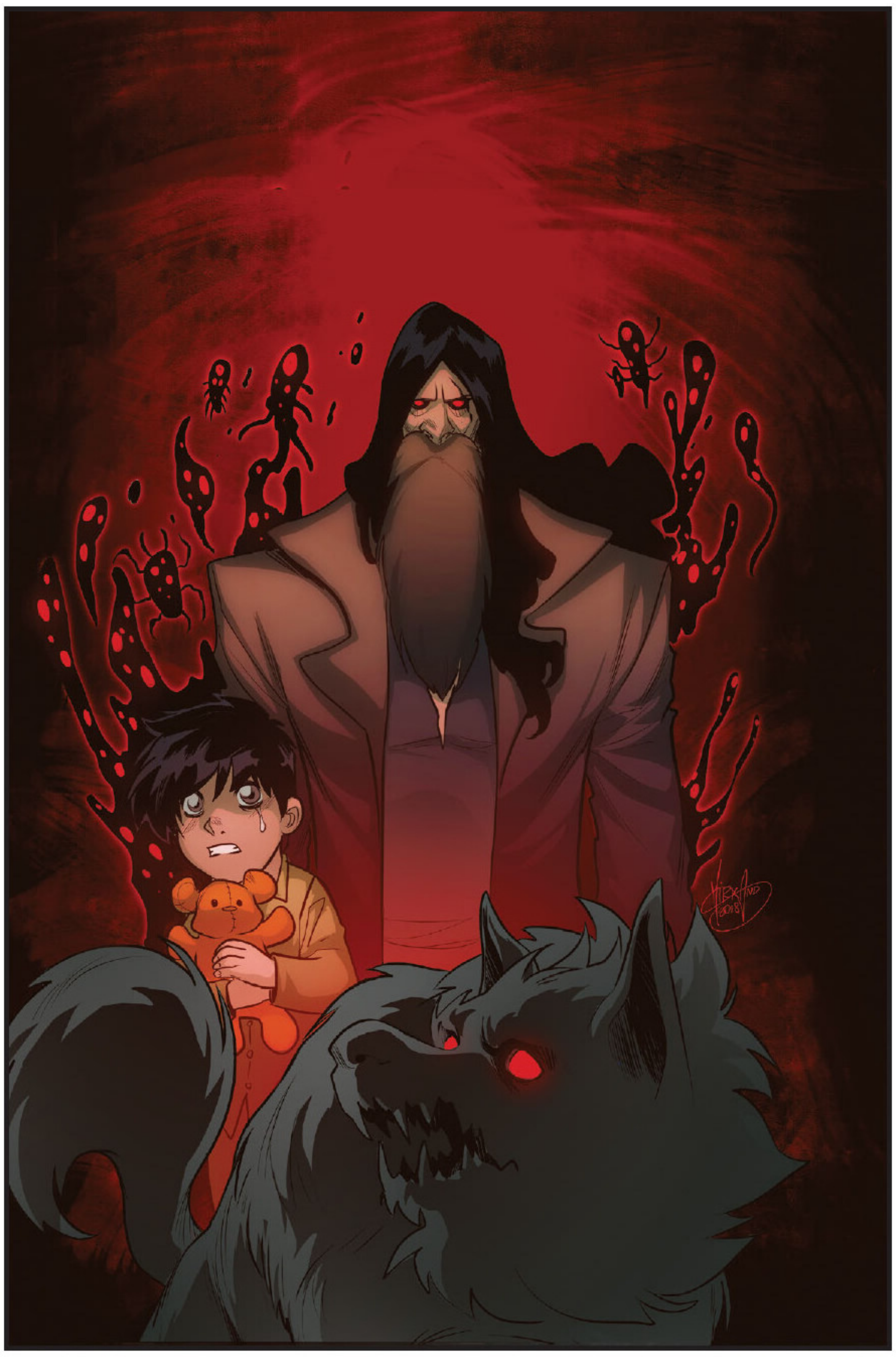
#2 *GHOST RIDER* #34 PARODY VARIANT COVER
BY **CARLOS NIETO** WITH COLORS BY **WALTER PEREYRA**



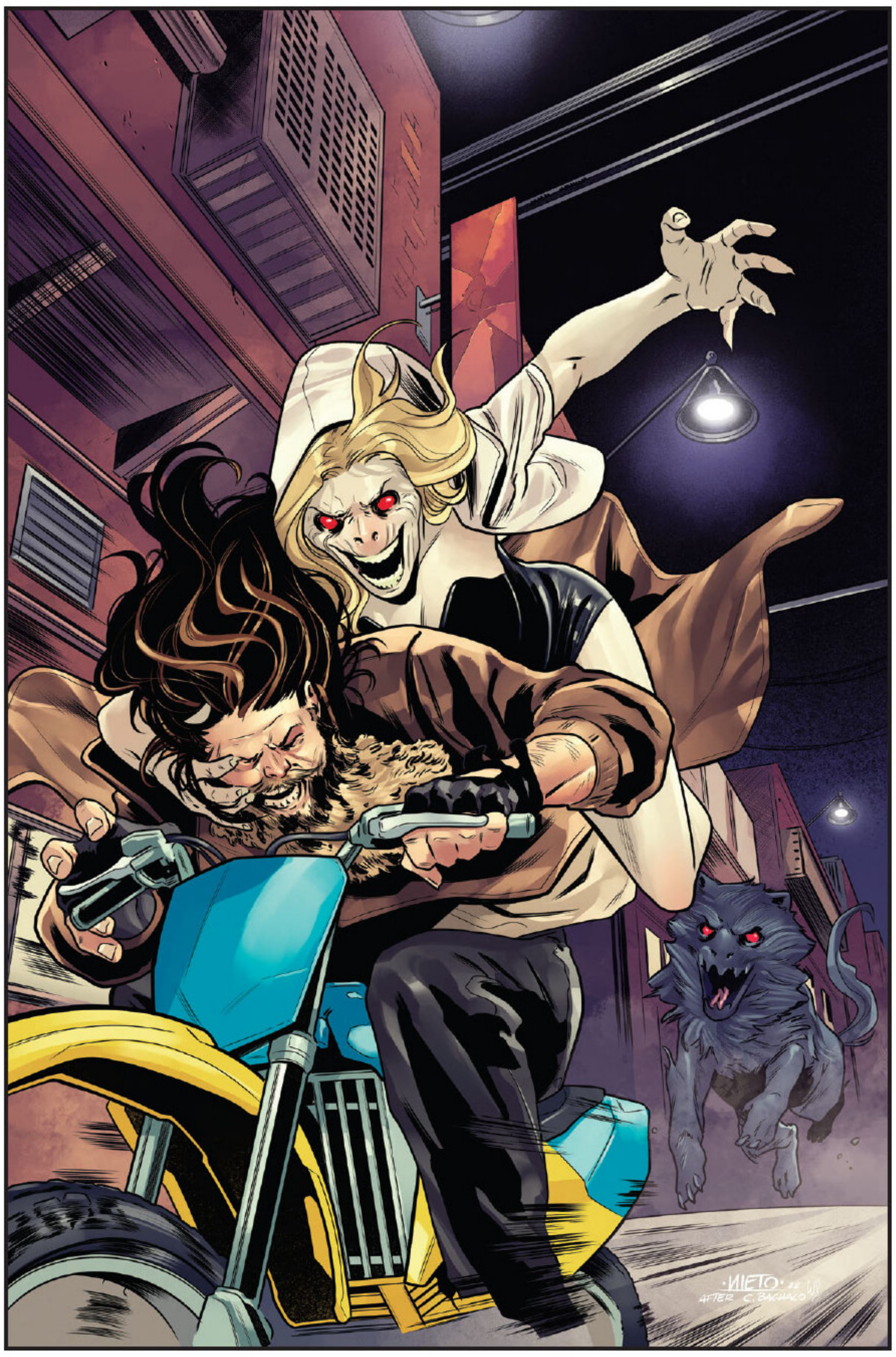
#3 VARIANT COVER BY **PEDRO ANDREO**
WITH COLORS BY **GABO**


·NIETO·
XXII
AFTER L.STROMAN

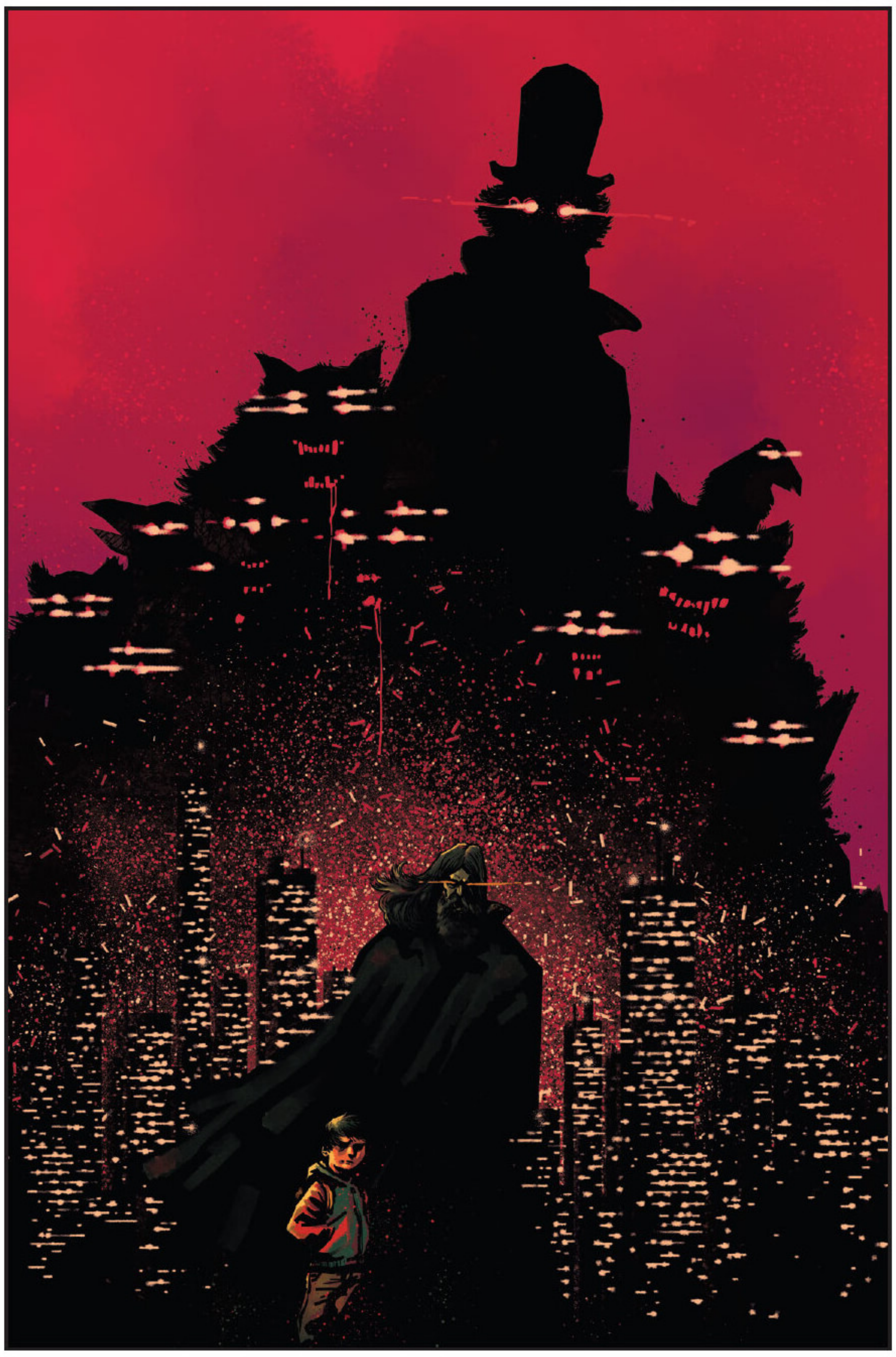
#3 *GHOST RIDER #11* PARODY VARIANT COVER
BY **CARLOS NIETO** WITH COLORS B**Y WALTER PEREYRA**



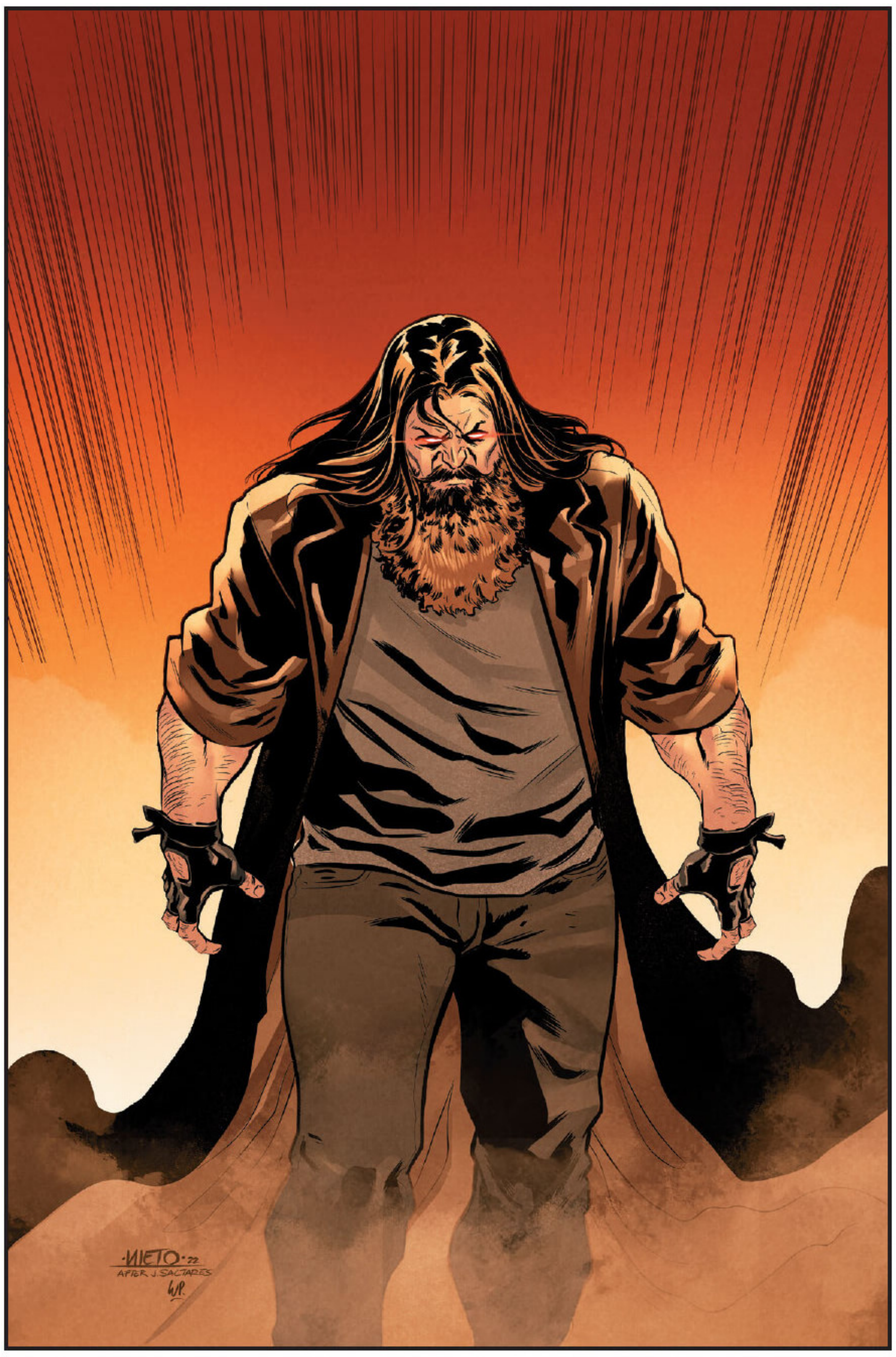
#4 VARIANT COVER BY **MIRKA ANDOLFO**


·NIETO·
AFTER C.BACHALO

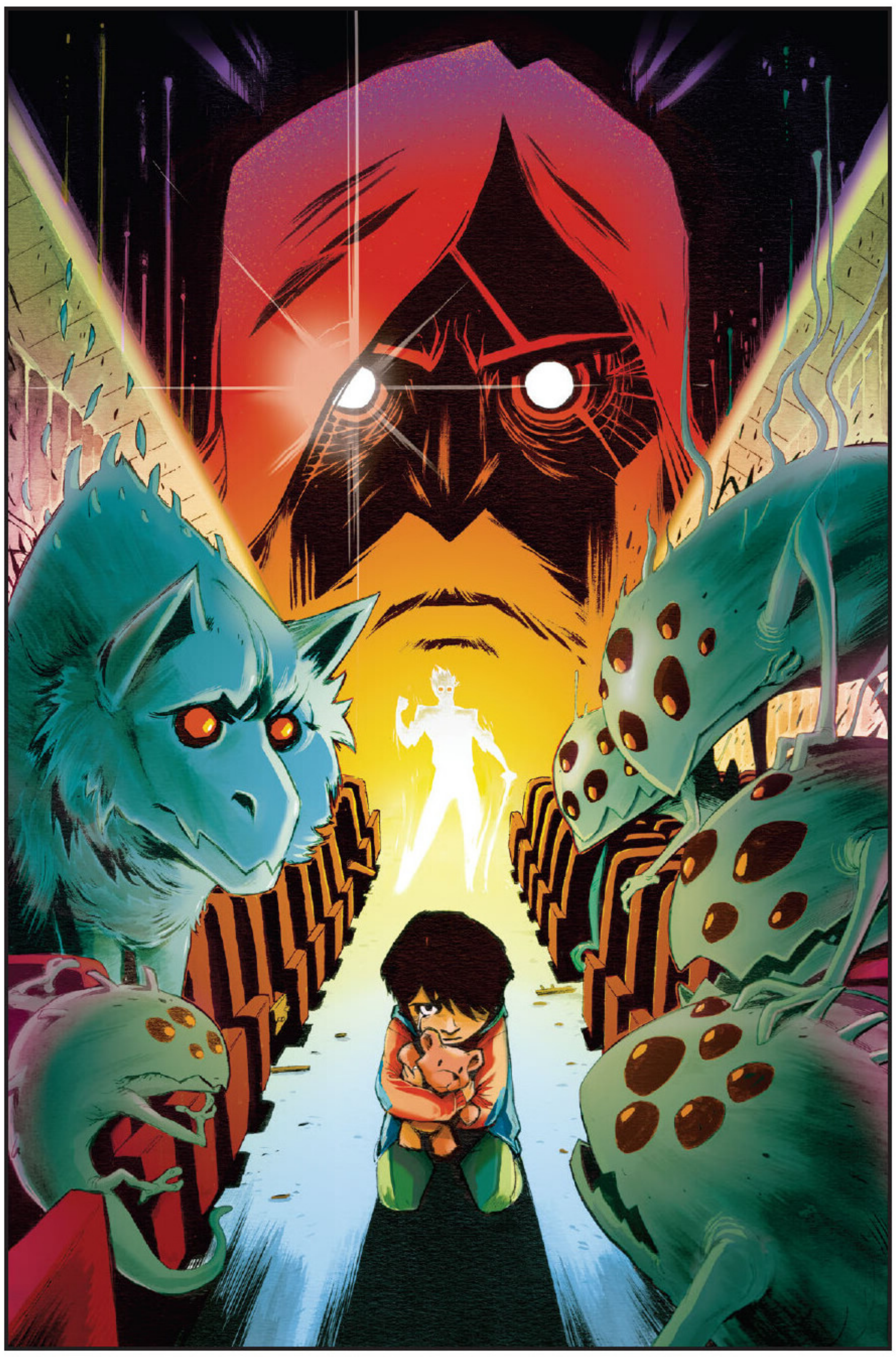
#4 *GHOST RIDER ANNUAL #1* PARODY VARIANT COVER
BY **CARLOS NIETO** WITH COLORS B**Y WALTER PEREYRA**



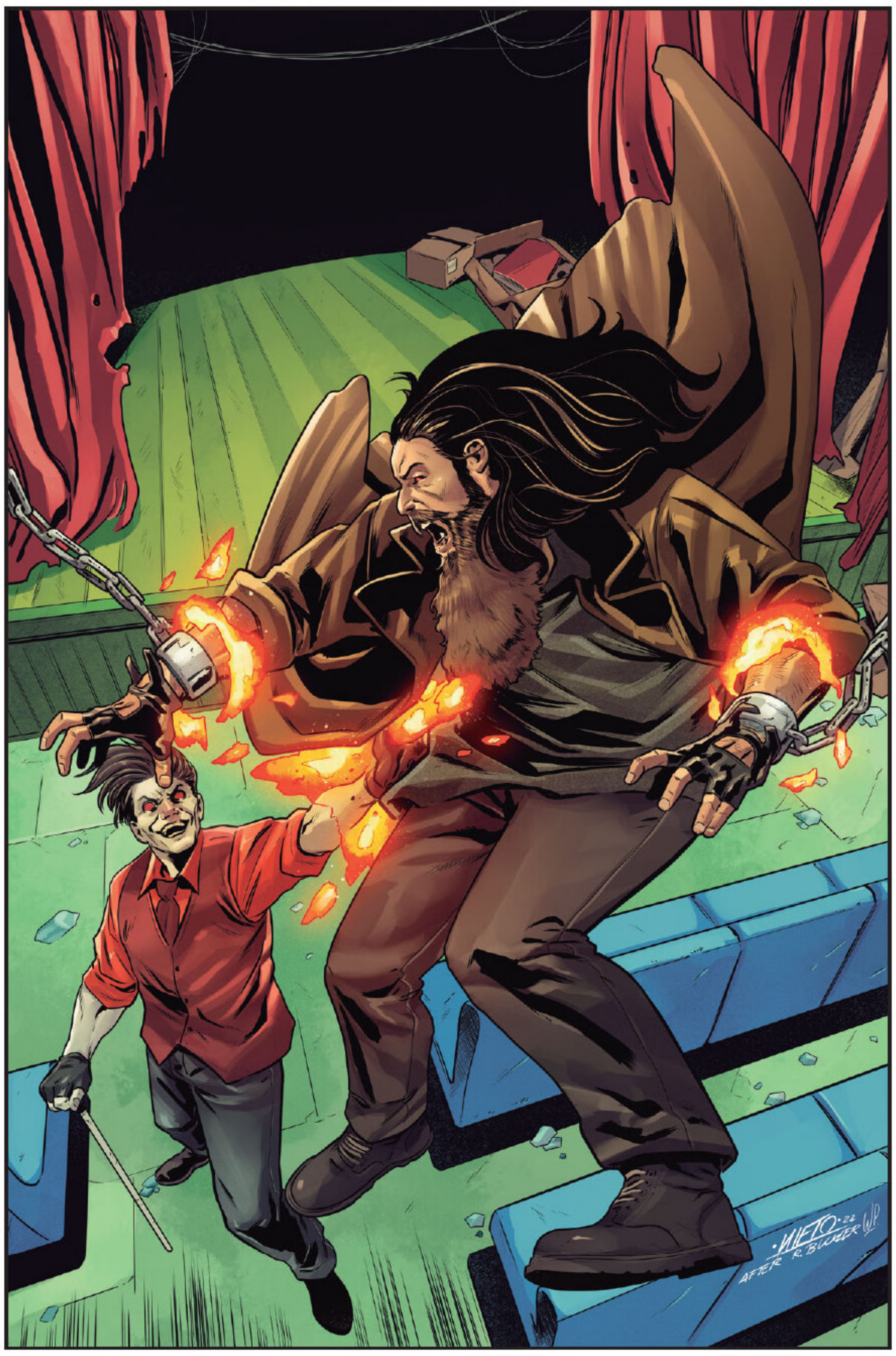
#5 VARIANT COVER BY **DIEGO GIRIBALDI**



#5 *GHOST RIDER* #90 PARODY VARIANT COVER
BY **CARLOS NIETO** WITH COLORS BY **WALTER PEREYRA**



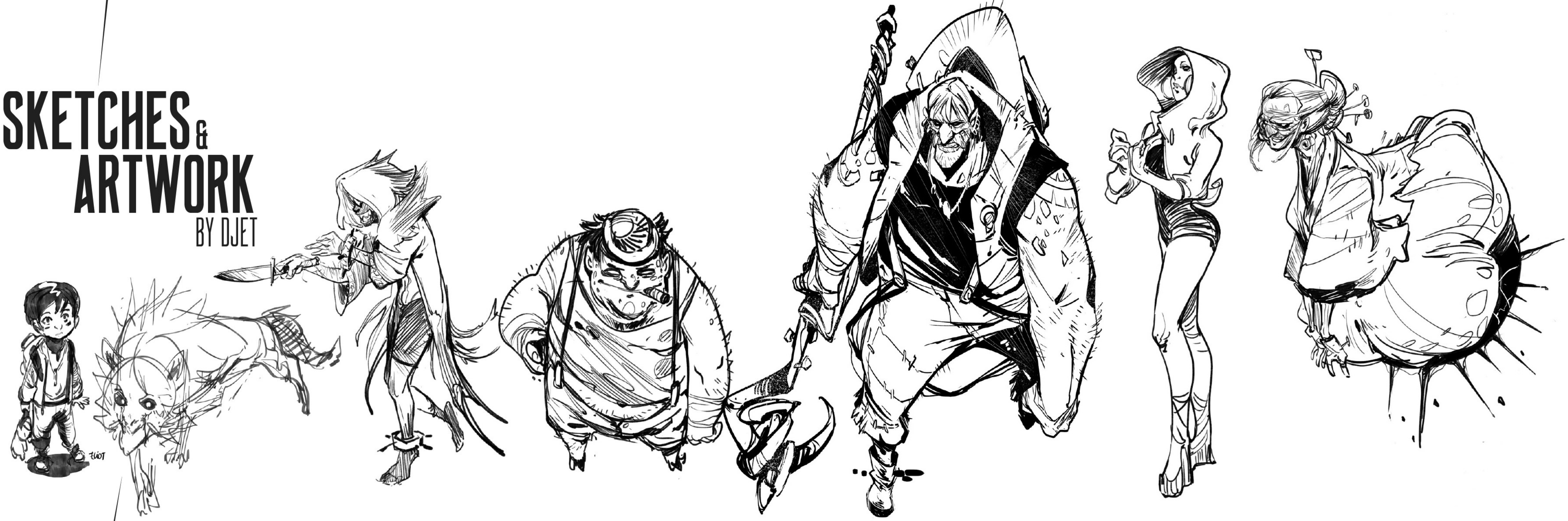
#6 VARIANT COVER BY **JUAN SAMU**

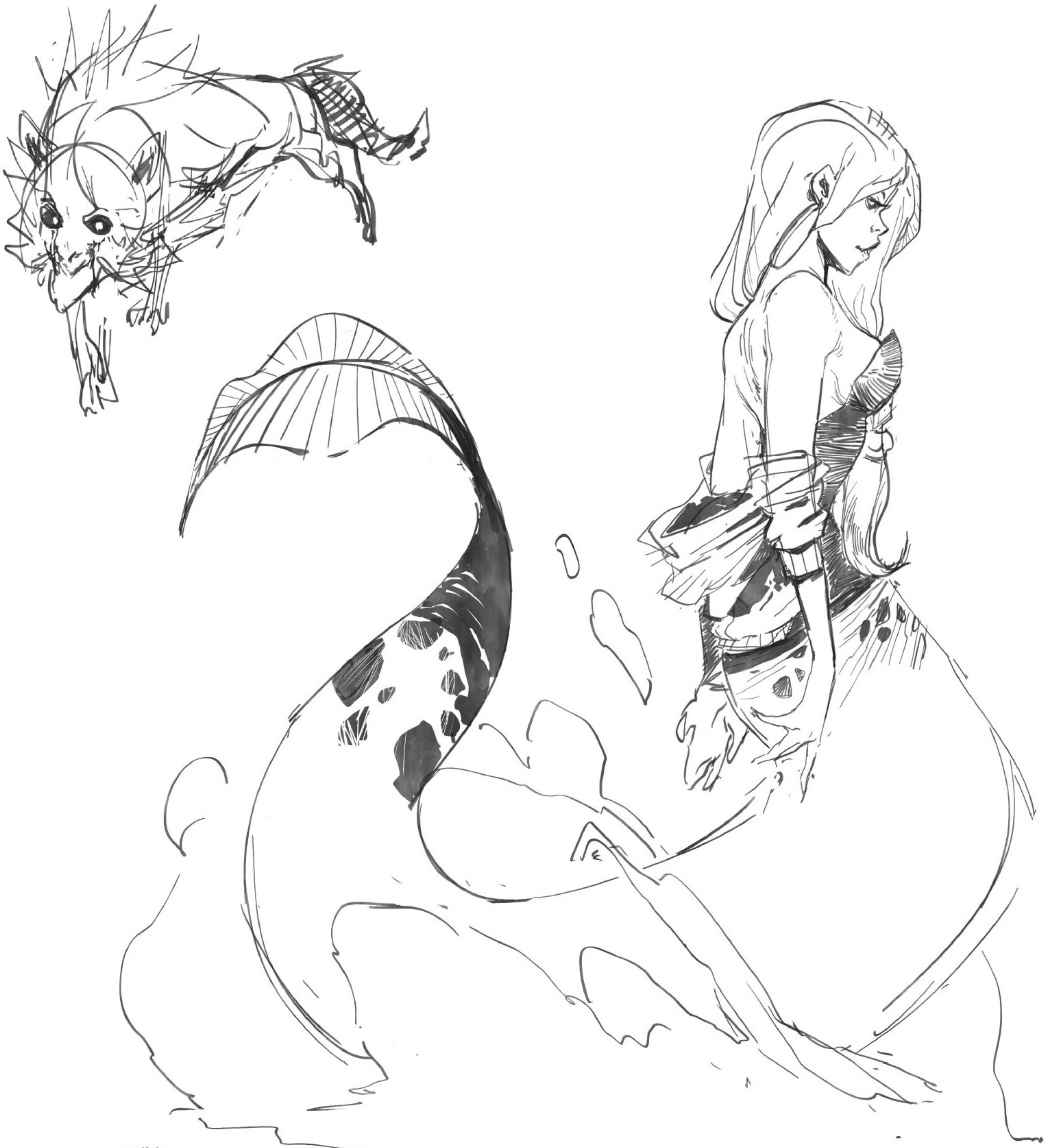


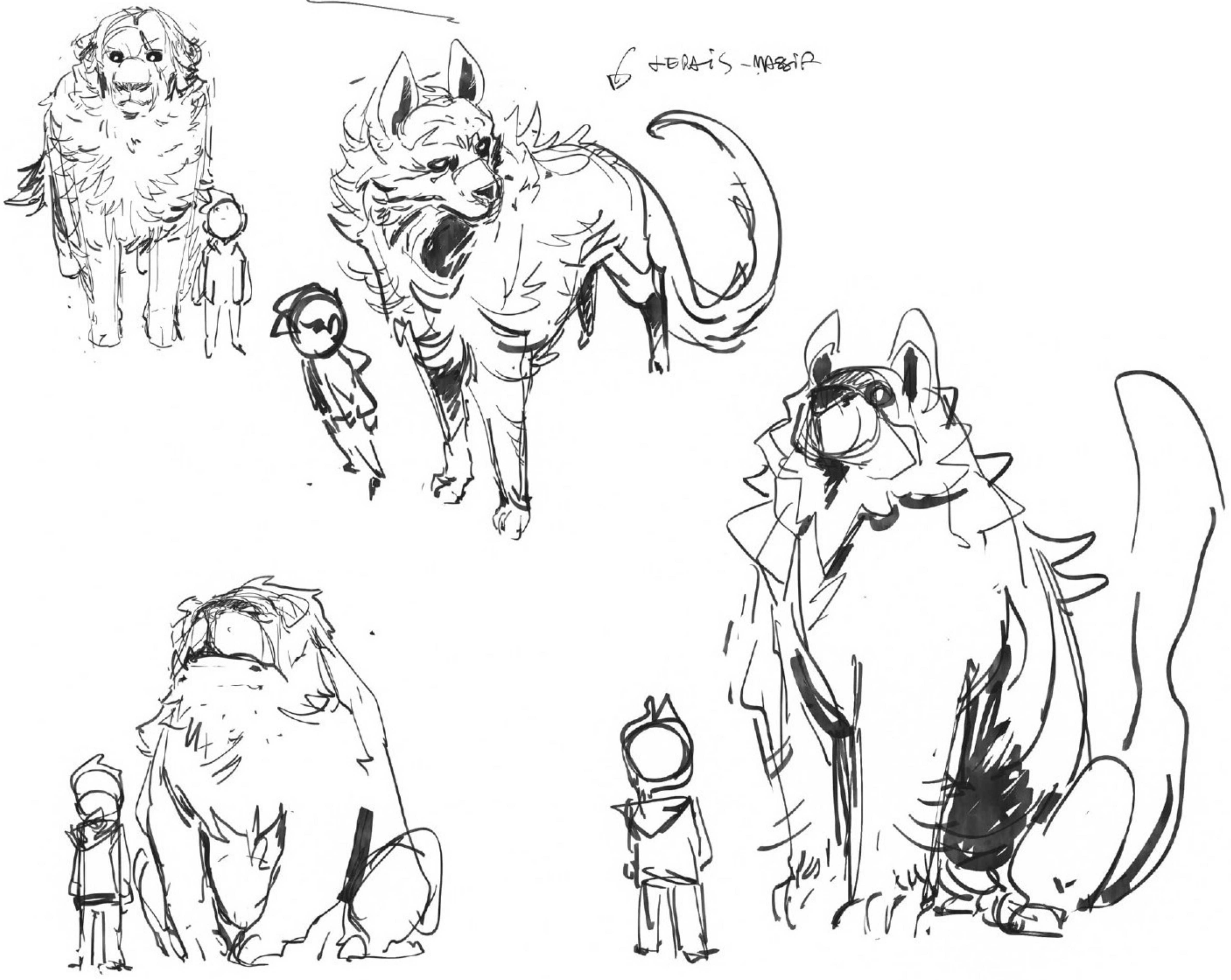
#6 *GHOST RIDER* #29 PARODY VARIANT COVER
BY **CARLOS NIETO** WITH COLORS BY **WALTER PEREYRA**

SKETCHES & ARTWORK

BY DJET






SERAIS-MASSIF

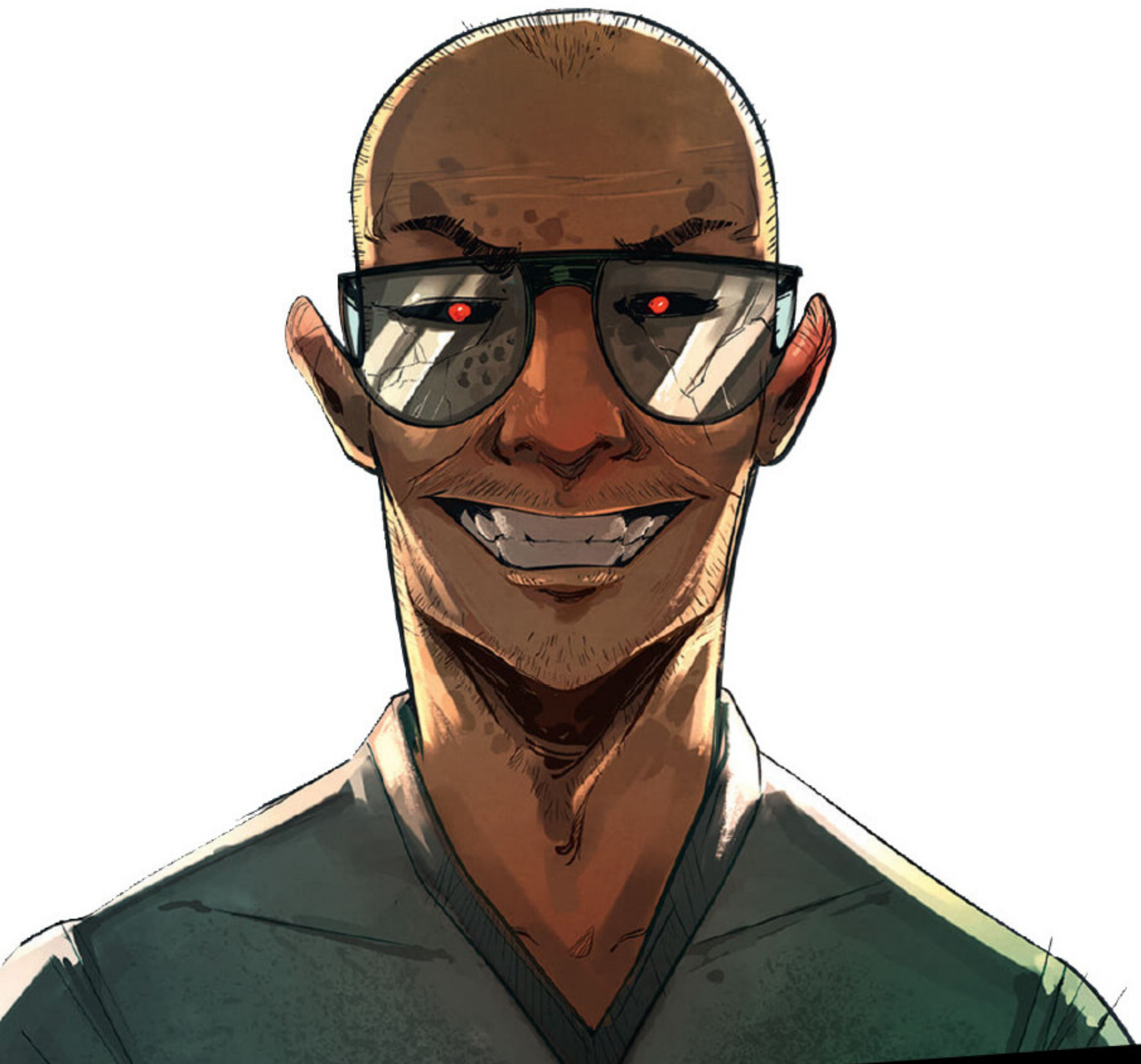
CROC JMBOT

Hook Butcher
Life vest
SIZE
Pepe Crochu

THE AUTHORS

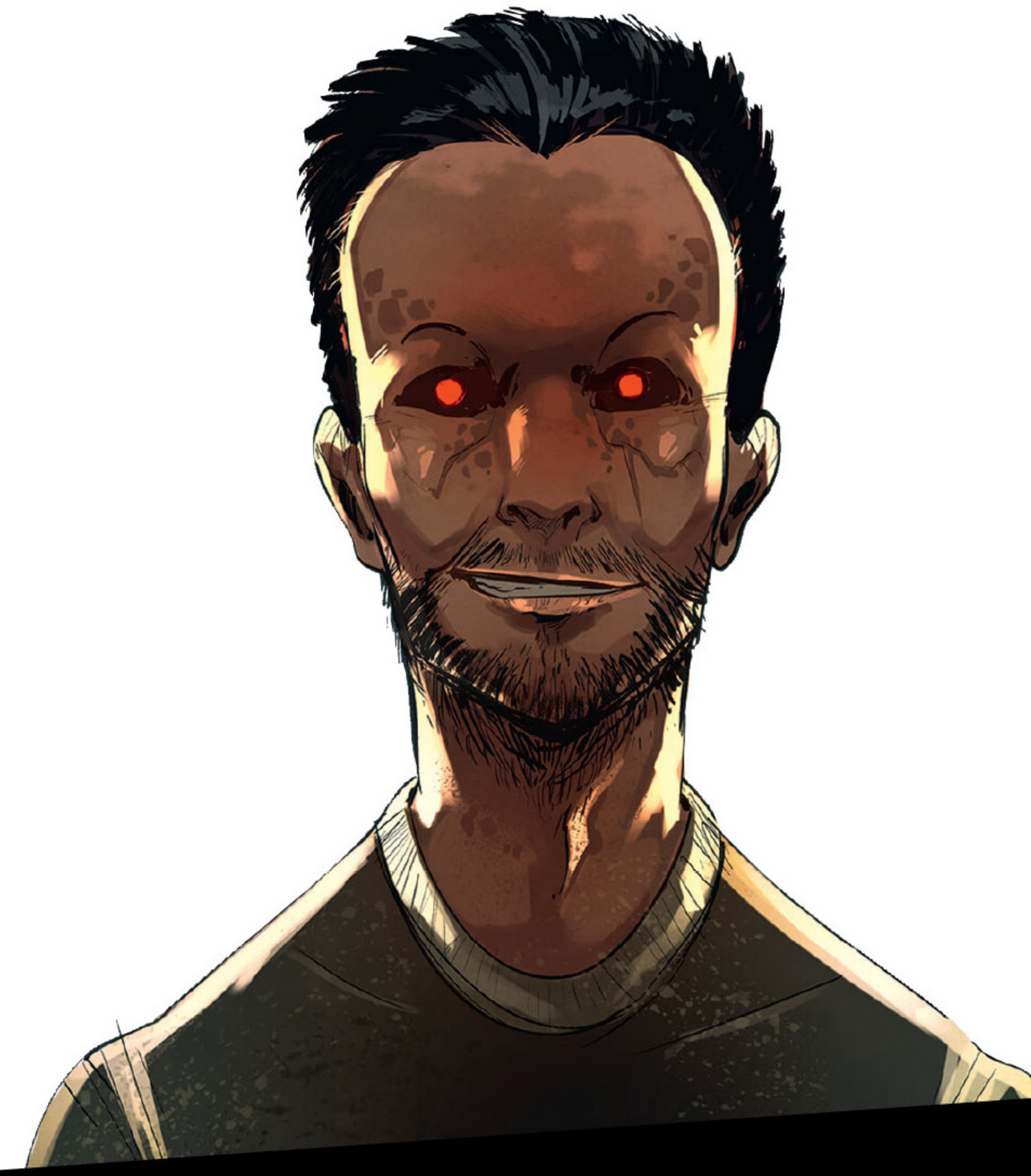
DJET

Djet, a cartoonist from Réunion living in Nantes, is active in the world of anime drawing as a storyboarder, illustrator and designer. He signed with *L’ile de Puki*, his first comic book publication in 2011. He also participated in the storyboard on some volumes of *Atalante*, Crisse’s cult series. He staged the Poet Anderson comics fresco with rockstar Tom DeLonge (Blink-182) for the American market in 2015. He divides his time between animation, video games and comics. At the moment, Djet is on the series ***In Memoriam***, published by the French publisher Dupuis. Mathieu Salvia is also the creator and writer of this project.



MATHIEU SALVIA

In 2011, **Mathieu Salvia** published his first short story with Nicolas Petrimaux in the collection Brume, published by CFSL Inc. In 2016, he signed Seven Heroes with Delcourt, alongside Philippe Briones and Romain Huet. Today, he is working on a new comic book series called ***In Memoriam*** with Djet, as well as several other projects.



MONSTERS DON'T ONLY EXIST IN CHILDREN'S MINDS...

Passionate about reading, Elliott has always had a preference for the stories of boogymen, those monstrous creatures which, at night, hide in the shadows or under the bed to frighten little children. He can't imagine how much they will change his life… Witnessing the bloody murder of his parents, he will discover that, in reality, boogymen do indeed exist, and very precise codes govern their existence. When one of the most powerful boogymen, Father Death, decides to protect him, Elliott finds himself plunged into a terrible conflict at the heart of a universe as terrifying as it is fascinating. On a dark, stormy night, Elliott's destiny will be fulfilled…

Creators Mathieu Salvia and Djet craft a stylish nightmare world and take you on a non-stop action adventure into the realm of the Boogymen. Collects the hit 6-issue series, along with cover gallery and bonus material.

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